



THE Macdonald Farm Journal

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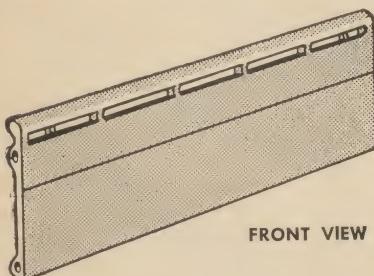
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Guarding The Soil

There are those who hold that the indiscriminate application of modern technical methods to agriculture tend in the long run to weaken rather than strengthen agricultural productivity.

The proponents of this theory attack particularly the increasing use of artificial fertilizers. They point to the example of the United States which uses artificial fertilizers on a scale without precedent in the history of agriculture, yet in approximately two centuries of farming over 100,000,000 acres of good land has been exhausted. On the other hand the Chinese peasant has been farming his plot for over forty centuries with no demonstrable loss in soil fertility.

The Chinese peasant has most likely never heard of artificial fertilizers much less used them. He does, however, make use of every source of excreta, animal or human. Every particle of green matter that is not consumed by him, his family or the inevitable pig—the scavenger of the East—goes back to the soil from whence it came. This life and death cycle is a continuing process, nothing is wasted.

The late English scientist Sir Albert Howard inclined to this view. In his opinion synthetic fertilizers do not furnish the soil with all those elements so necessary for its full restoration. He insisted that the soil cannot be kept healthy by the highly technical methods of western agriculture. He suggested that we follow more closely nature's way of keeping the soil healthy, that is, through a balancing of the processes of growth and decay. Plants and animals are born, grow and die; during their life time they enrich the soil and upon death

that part of them which is not edible is returned to the soil, a layer of humus is built up, the rains fall and are held within this spongelike layer. In these surroundings plants and animals are well able to protect themselves against the ravages of disease. Another scientist, the American specialist F. H. King, while not willing to go as far as Howard did, suggests that perhaps the West could learn much from the remarkable achievements of the Chinese and Japanese peoples in maintaining the fertility of their soils through the centuries.

This does not mean that we should jettison the great scientific advances which western agriculture has made, but it would seem to indicate that we should never lose sight of the fact that there is no substitute for barnyard manure and green manuring crops in the building up of the fertility of our soils. Artificial fertilizers, while they cannot restore the soils completely, for it is not only the chemical composition of the soil which counts but also its physical structure, do play a vital role in making good some of the chief deficiencies exhibited by these soils.

Chemistry has done much to enrich our soils over the last fifty years, but do not let us be stampeded into thinking that it offers a "cure all" for the ills that beset them. Indeed it may well be that before many years have passed we shall be forced to give this matter much greater thought than heretofore, and as a result may come up with some form of compromise which will offer a solution to the problem of increasing production without permitting a qualitative decline in nutritive value.

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Public Enemy Number One

Rats constitute man's greatest enemy, for they not only eat quantities of feed but spread diseases dangerous to both man and animals. In this article we get a look at a new poison which gives man another weapon in his age long fight to wipe out his old enemy.

Q — Just what is warfarin?

A — Warfarin is an amazing new rodenticide discovered in the laboratories of Dr. Karl Paul Link of the Biochemistry Department, University of Wisconsin.

Q — How was it discovered?

A — The discovery resulted from Dr. Link's investigations of haemorrhagic sweet clover disease, a disease of cattle that had earlier been identified by Dr. F. W. Schofield of Ontario Veterinary College. Dr. Link discovered that when sweet cover hay turns mouldy, a substance is formed which destroys the ability of the blood to clot.

Q — What is warfarin? Is it a single chemical or a combination of different ingredients?

A — Warfarin is the proper name for a single chemical. Its scientific name is 3-(*a*-acetylbenzyl)-4-hydroxycoumarin.

Q — Who developed warfarin into a commercial product?

A — It was developed into a commercial product by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation and co-operating commercial firms.

Q — How does warfarin work?

A — It is an anti-coagulant. That is, it destroys the normal clotting ability of the blood, causing death by internal haemorrhage.

Q — Is death instantaneous?

A — No. In the concentrations used for rodent control, warfarin must be eaten by rats over a period of from three to five days to cause death.

Q — How can rats be induced to eat the required amount for this length of time?

A — Commercial brands of ready-to-use warfarin are mixed with a cereal bait, such as corn meal, which rats find very palatable. Warfarin produces no pain or other symptom to make the rats suspicious. As a result, they return time after time to what they seem to regard as an easy source of tasty food.

Q — How effective is warfarin in killing rats?

A — It has never failed to kill rats wherever it has been consumed. A bulletin issued by Ontario Agricultural College describes warfarin as "the best rodenticide available for use on farms by untrained individuals".

Q — How does it compare in cost with other rat poisons?



The henhouse is a favourite feeding ground for rats which not only eat and contaminate large amounts of poultry rations, but also kill young chicks.

A — On a package basis, warfarin may be slightly more expensive. On the basis of results, warfarin is considerably lower in price.

Q — Does the discovery of warfarin make other methods of rat control obsolete?

A — Control methods such as good sanitation, rat-proofing buildings, are certainly not obsolete and can still play an important part in any effective rat control program.

Q — Will warfarin deteriorate if a package is not all used at once?

A — No. Warfarin is a very stable compound and can be used in all ranges of climatic conditions found in Canada.

Q — Where can warfarin be bought?

A — It is available at most feed stores, drug stores, hardware stores, farm equipment dealers and similar retail outlets.

Q — Is warfarin difficult to use?

A — No. Successful baiting with warfarin is a simple operation. It is very important, however, to follow carefully the directions on the package.

Q — What is the best way to use warfarin on farms?

A — Any shallow container will serve as a bait container. You can make an excellent bait box from old lumber or old cans. One of the simplest is a piece of lumber about five or six feet long, nailed at an angle between the floor and the wall. Place the bait on the floor between the board and the wall.

Q — How many of these bait stations are necessary and where should they be put?

A — On the average farm, about five or six stations should be sufficient. The best locations are the henhouse, piggery, mow, stable and granary. Other stations can be placed where rats have been seen or where there are signs of rat damage or droppings. The stations should be checked every two days to make sure there is always an adequate supply of bait on hand.



Here is a packing case converted to a bait station and placed near the wall of a building. Warfarin is placed inside the bait station, and the holes in the end of the box permit nothing larger than a rat to have access to the bait.

Q — Is prebaiting necessary?

A — No prebaiting is necessary with warfarin.

Q — Will rats and mice become suspicious of warfarin baits?

A — No. There has never been any difficulty in getting rodents to eat warfarin baits.

Q — Should water be put near the bait?

A — In some cases it is advisable to put a small can of water near or in a bait station so a rat will not stop feeding to look for water.

Q — Why is it so important to check the bait supply constantly?

A — Because a single dose of warfarin is not lethal. It must be eaten for three to five days. If a rat does not eat a lethal dose he will recover.

Q — How much warfarin is needed to treat the average farm?

A — This depends, of course, on how heavy the infestation is. But probably from five to ten pounds would be needed.

Q — Do any government agriculturalists recommend the use of warfarin?

A — The O.A.C. bulletin quoted previously, says that the infestation on the average farm is much greater than generally believed and is "serious enough to warrant the regular application of control measures". The bulletin says warfarin is, at the present time, the best rodenticide available for use on farms. Agriculturalists in other provinces are also making use of warfarin.

Q — Can warfarin be used for other locations besides farms?

A — Definitely, warfarin produces excellent results in eradicating rats around warehouses, slaughter houses, garbage dumps, feed mills, stables, residential or office buildings or any other infested location.

Q — What use has been made of warfarin in Canada in this type of work?

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A — Warfarin is being used by municipalities across Canada to control infestations of garbage dumps. It is being used by grain elevators, ships, warehouses, feed mills, and in public buildings in a wide variety of conditions.

Q — Does warfarin kill mice successfully?

A — Warfarin is equally effective on infestations of mice. Because their feeding habits are different, a baiting period of around 21 days is usually needed to control mice, as opposed to around 12 days for rats.

Q — Is there any advantage to using warfarin in combination with other poisons?

A — None whatsoever. Indeed, warfarin baits should never be mixed with other substances.

Q — Will warfarin kill poultry?

A — Poultry is very resistant to warfarin. With the concentration used for killing rats, chickens would have to eat an abnormal amount before dying. In one test, over a 14-month period, a White Leghorn hen ate enough warfarin to kill 9,000 rats. There was no trace of ill effects. If baiting is done properly, it should be impossible for chickens to have access to a fatal dose.

Q — Will warfarin kill livestock?

A — Warfarin will kill any warm-blooded mammal, if enough is eaten over a sufficiently long period of time. But there is such a small amount of warfarin in baits used to kill rats that it is very unlikely that any accidental consumption would be harmful.

Q — Are some farm animals more resistant to warfarin than others?

A — Yes, Hogs are more susceptible than cows, and cows are more susceptible than sheep. But even hogs would have to eat a very large amount of bait to obtain a lethal dose. The O.A.C. bulletin cited one case where a hog demolished a bait station and ate the contents without harm.

Q — Suppose hogs or other livestock ate dead rats killed by warfarin. How would it affect them?

A — Animals might be sickened merely by eating dead rats—regardless of the cause of death. That is why it is advisable to club any dying rats seen and remove any dead ones found. For an animal to be harmed by eating rats killed by warfarin, however, it would be necessary to live almost exclusively on a diet of warfarin-killed rats for several days.

Q — Should any other precautions be taken to protect farm animals?

A — Although there is little chance that farm animals will be harmed, as an additional precaution it is advisable to ensure that they are adequately fed while baiting is going on.

Q — Will warfarin harm humans?

A — There is absolutely no danger from external contact with warfarin baits. Small amounts eaten accidentally in single lots are also harmless. Each package of warfarin

contains instructions in case of accidental consumption of bait.

Q — Are there likely to be a large number of dead rats lying around after baiting?

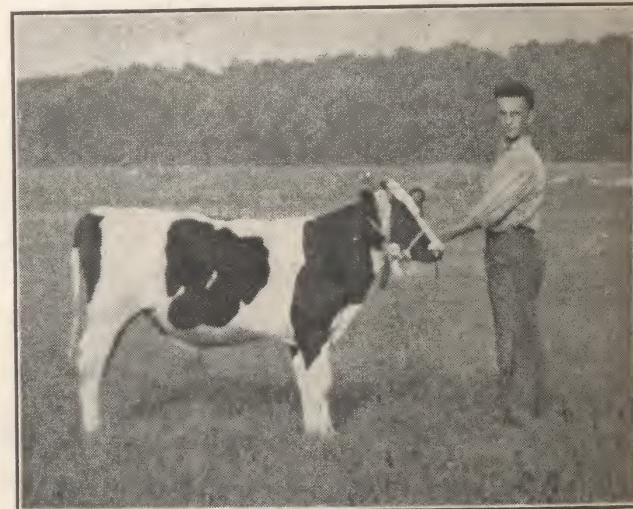
A — You will probably see very few rats—perhaps none at all. Rats usually return to underground burrows after feeding, and then are too weak to climb out. From 75 to 90 per cent of them die there.

Q — In that case, how can the effectiveness of the baiting be judged?

A — The thing to look for is absence of rat damage, not the presence of live rats. Once feeding at the bait stations has stopped, the rats are either eradicated or controlled. A few permanent stations can be left to prevent reinfestation.

Q — If the rats die in burrows, isn't there a possibility of an odor?

A — Only a very slight one, as the soil absorbs the odor. Very few complaints have been received in this connection.



Kathmur Shirley-Don, a bull calf owned by John Wanzer & Sons, won the champion and grand champion awards at the Missisquoi County Agricultural Society Fair. Raymond Wanzer is shown holding the prize winner.

For Better Community Programmes

Attend the

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Course includes: Agriculture, Home Decoration, Public Speaking, Recreation and Planning Community Meetings.

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Don't Play Bach In The Barn

(Reprinted from CBC Times)

On the farm, radio is a factor which can favourably affect the yield of milk, eggs, pork and other farm produce—but an expert warns that cows have a very practical way of showing their dislike of symphony music!

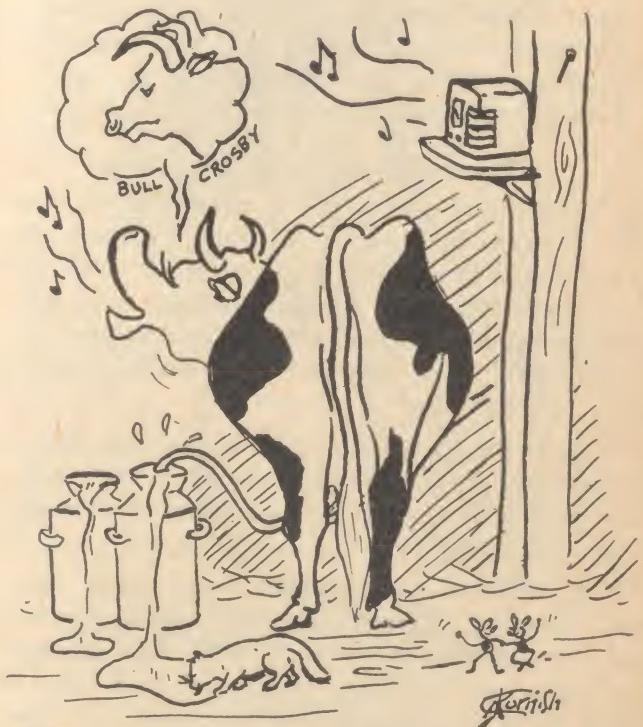
WHEN farmers first moved their radio sets out to the barns, it was strictly as a convenience for themselves, so that they could keep up with their favourite programs while milking or attending to the poultry. Then they began noticing that their's weren't the only ears pricked up when the barn was flooded with broadcast conversation or music. The pigs and chickens and the others found it a pleasant change, too, and they even began to show preferences for certain types of programs.

Dr. R. H. Wright of the Central Canada Veterinary Association says that experiments in Canada and the U.S. have proved that cows give more milk when they listen to the warblings of Bing Crosby or the Andrews Sisters, and that they cut down on production when they hear symphonic music regularly. Until this was established, no one had realized that the melting brown eyes of old bossy concealed a nature that was really "hep". Of course, some practical souls insist that the main value of music in the barn is to blot out noises that might distract the cows during milking, but the fact remains that music does appear to have a psychological effect on livestock.

And it isn't limited to our four-legged friends, either. It has been demonstrated that a radio playing continuously in the chicken house may trim as much as a week from the time required to bring broilers to market size. The birds grow used to voices and noises and don't get excited when attendants enter the house. Apparently chickens are broad-minded—various reports indicate they like singer Peggy Brooks, adventure stories and political speeches about equally well.

Hogs are radio-conscious, too, and, like the cows, they go for music in a dancing mood, which appears to keep them from fighting one another. Consequently they gain weight faster and their hides aren't damaged by scratches and bruises.

Norn Garriock, CBC farm commentator for Ontario and Quebec, says he can just picture some of the four-legged members of his audience cringing when he reads cow prices on the air—especially if they're high. Then the cows know their number is coming up, and it's off to market for them. It makes Garriock feel badly to have to pass on blue news to some of his audience that way. But, on the other hand, he often cheers them up when he reports on new cattle diets.



"Our cows sure have increased their output since Crosby came on the air."

He can almost hear them licking their lips at the thought of the lush proteins, salts and other nutrients that will find their way into their menus if their keepers take the advice of the CBC experts. And when Garriock tells about cattle winning prizes in different parts of the country, it's like Old Home Week for some of his eager listeners, as they catch up on news of their relatives and friends who "made good".

The weather forecasts, says Garriock, are by far the most popular program in the duck set, especially if lots of rain is forecast. Sheep are fairly tolerant of the market reports because of Canada's low per capita consumption of mutton, and if their owner happens to be an expert called to the microphone to contribute advice on sheep raising, they pass the glad word around the pen, and when the noon-hour farm broadcast goes on the air, they're all ears. Most farm animals like to hear their owners' voices, although a couple of old rams and a sow with a chip on her shoulder have been known to turn away in disgust at the sound of their master's voice, and refuse to be sociable until the next time they heard Frank Sinatra sing.

On the whole, with all the new programs starting this Fall, and old favorites returning, the CBC's farm-yard friends should be kept fairly content—until Christmas, that is, when the merest hint of a carol will no doubt send thousands of turkeys into an orgy of sad farewells.

For The Ladies

Here is a section devoted to the interests of the feminine half of agriculture. Recipes, helpful hints for housework and the latest in fashions will be presented as a monthly feature.

Sandwiches that do the Job

A GOOD lunch for school or work has milk, fruit or vegetables or both, some form of protein such as meat, egg, cheese, fish, beans or peanut butter and bread, preferably whole wheat. One simple menu suggestion might be chopped ham sandwiches with raw turnip sticks, baked fruit with chocolate cupcake for dessert and milk.

Sandwich fillings based on eggs, cheese, meat, fish or peanut butter can be easily varied every day. For example, add grated carrot or chopped parsley to egg, or mix cheese with chopped pickle or crisp bacon bits.

Finger salads of such vegetables as raw carrots, tomatoes, lettuce or cabbage wedges are quickly prepared and easy to include in the lunch. Fresh fruits in season are always welcome. Later on, cooked fruit such as baked apples or applesauce can be packed in a glass jar or waxed paper carton. Milk puddings may be carried in the same way.

Planning your school youngster's lunch box menus ahead of time is the sure-fire way to make sure his sandwiches pack a wallop nutrition-wise, stick to his ribs, and don't become monotonously the same.

Post your lunch box menu for the week in a handy spot and have all your equipment ready so that you can go into action. Here are some of the items you'll want to gather together in one place, perhaps a drawer or shelf: wax paper, paper containers and napkins, bread knife and board, paring knife, spatulas, small bowls, measuring and mixing spoons, salt and pepper and any staples that don't need refrigeration.

Protein-rich Fillings

Sandwiches are the mainstay of that lunch box meal, so make the fillings rich in protein—cheese, meat, eggs, fish, and chicken are all good animal protein foods. Such fillings combine with the cereal protein of the bread to make a good working team. Nutritionists explain that our bodies use the two kinds of protein together much more efficiently than either one alone. Together, they provide all of the essential amino acids of protein—nutrients necessary for growth and health.

Don't forget how many different kinds of bread there are to help you out in sandwiches making—rye, whole wheat, raisin, nut, oatmeal, brown bread and many others.

Store in Freezer

Let your freezer lend a helping hand, too, for with this wonderful convenience you can make up a supply of school lunch sandwiches a whole week or even a month or more ahead. Tuck the frozen sandwiches into the lunch box and they'll keep other foods fresh, crisp and cool for several hours. It takes about an hour for the sandwiches to thaw.

Best fillings for freezing are peanut butter, Cheddar, or cream cheese, sliced or ground meat, fish or chicken. Avoid egg salad or sliced egg sandwiches, for freezing toughens egg white. Omit mayonnaise, as it will separate and soak into the bread.

Don't make up sandwiches more than a week in advance if you plan to store them in the frozen food section of your refrigerator. Make them no more than 24 hours ahead if they're to be kept in another part of the refrigerator.

Sandwiches Not Enough

Count on about two sandwiches for youngsters up to 12, and as many as four or five for an active teen-ager. But don't expect sandwiches to do the whole job. Include milk, fruit and vegetables in the lunch box, too. Crisp fruits and vegetables make the biggest hit, as well as crisp lettuce that's wrapped separately and added to sandwiches at the last minute. The dessert is easy—cake or cookies.

The best lunch in the world won't do any good if it's not eaten. So plan on sandwich fillings and other foods you know your youngster likes, give him variety from day to day and a special treat now and then.

Basic Recipe for 12 Medium-Sized Muffins

2 cups flour (all purpose)	2 tablespoons sugar
3-4 teaspoons baking powder (depending on kind used)	2 to 3 tablespoons fat or oil
3/4 teaspoon salt	1 egg

1 cup milk

Sift and measure the flour, add the dry ingredients, and sift into a mixing bowl. Make a well in center of flour mixture. Beat egg light, add melted fat and milk. Combine and pour into the dry ingredients. Stir till the dry ingredients are just moist. The batter is still lumpy. Fill greased muffin tins $\frac{2}{3}$ full and bake.

VARIATIONS:

Add any one of the following:

- 1/2 cup minced crisp bacon
 - 1/2 cup minced crisp ham
 - 1 cup grated cheese and 1/4 cup milk
 - 1/2-3/4 cup nuts
 - 1 cup apples, chopped fine
 - 1 cup cooked dried apricots, well drained and chopped
 - 1 cup blueberries, drained, increase shortening to 4-T. and sugar to 4-T.
 - 3/4 cup currants
 - 1/2 cup dates and 1/2 cup nuts, chopped
 - 1 cup candied orange peel
 - 1 cup raisins
- Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar.

Information Please!



The average Canadian farm yields a surprising number of dead rats after being baited with Warfarin. In most cases, however, many of the corpses are never recovered because the rats die in underground burrows. Any corpses found should be removed.

This section should make interesting reading, for it is given over to the problems of our readers. Problems sent in by Farm Forum and other groups will be dealt with here.

RATS constitute a grave menace on our farms. Not only do they eat vast quantities of feed that would otherwise be used to produce milk, meat, eggs and other produce but they are great carriers of diseases dangerous to man and animals alike.

For this reason it has been thought advisable to forego our usual question and answer technique, and print in some detail the results of tests carried out by the Ontario Agricultural College with a new rat poison called Warfarin. Further information on this subject can be had by writing to Box 237, Macdonald College.

The bulletin on rodent control has been prepared by Prof. R. H. Ozburn of the O.A.C. Department of Entomology and Zoology. It was based on a rat control demonstration on 57 representative farms, carried out jointly by O.A.C., the agricultural representative branch of The Ontario Department of Agriculture and Ontario Veterinary College.

In his test, Prof. Ozburn baited the farms with Warfarin, a new rodenticide developed by biochemists at the University of Wisconsin, which he describes as "the best rodenticide available for use on farms by untrained individuals".

Warfarin is an anti-coagulant drug which produces a fatal hemorrhage when small amounts are consumed daily for a period of three to five days. To induce rats to eat Warfarin daily, it is mixed with a palatable cereal such as corn meal. The concentration used is so low that danger to farm or domestic animals is unlikely. Prof. Ozburn used a ready-to-use Warfarin bait, mixed



"A very valuable citizen"

When a bank manager was transferred recently a group of citizens wrote the bank in tribute to his sense of public service:

"During the time he was here, we found him to be a very valuable citizen. He always took a deep interest in our community, so we feel we have lost a valuable asset. However, we feel sure that his replacement will be made with a man of similar calibre."

A bank man, by the very nature of his work, becomes part of the life around him. During his training in various branches, and as he takes on growing responsibilities, he learns more and more about people and how his bank can help them. And he brings to his community his personal readiness to serve in any way he can.

This advertisement, based on an actual letter, is presented here by

THE BANKS SERVING
YOUR COMMUNITY



with corn meal, which can be purchased from the retail outlets by the public.

Prof. Ozburn reported that a total of 233 dead rats were recovered from the 57 farms during the month the tests were conducted. At the end of that time, bait was still being consumed on some farms, indicating that eradication was not yet complete.

He added that with a slow-acting poison such as Warfarin, from 75 to 90 per cent of the rats killed would die in burrows and their bodies would not be recovered. These figures would indicate that from 900 to 2,000 rats were killed on the 57 farms.

A total of 158 dead mice were also found although "mice were not stressed and on some farms were not picked up. The number of mice reported is not, therefore, an accurate indication of the number poisoned".

Prof. Ozburn also reported that only two or three of the 57 farmers had believed that there were enough rats on their farms to constitute a serious problem. But on every farm there was consumption of bait—indicating the presence of rats, and the estimated kill averaged 20 to 30 rats per farm. On some of these farms, other rat poisons had been used within the past few months.

Farmers co-operating in the tests were asked to place five or six bait boxes on their farms, in such places as the henhouse, piggery, granary, mow, stable, and driveshed.

Because Warfarin must be eaten regularly, farmers were asked to check the boxes every two days to make sure an adequate bait supply was always on hand.

Prof. Ozburn found that bait consumption on different farms varied from nine ounces to 16 pounds, with an average of 3.1 pounds per farm. He found consumption was greatest at bait boxes in henhouses, followed by the piggery, mow, stable and granary.

Farmers were warned that cats, dogs and hogs which ate rats killed by Warfarin might be harmed but "other than two cases of sick cats being observed, no other effect was noticed". One farmer reported that a sow

demolished a bait box and consumed a pound of bait with no ill effects.

The professor reported: "On practically every farm participating in the campaign, rat harborage or other conditions favorable to rats existed. Food and water were readily accessible.

"Despite the fact that many farms had well constructed buildings and many had used rat poisons during the previous few months, evidence of bait consumption by rats was present on every farm.

He said that the amount of bait consumed and the number of dead rats found indicated that "the rodent population on the average farm in Ontario is much greater than generally credited.

"It is generally accepted that small amounts of corn-meal-warfarin bait, taken over the course of three to five days, is fatal to a rat. It is also generally accepted by rodentologists that if a rat is seen occasionally there may be 20-200 on the premises; that with slow-acting poisons such as Warfarin from 75 to 90 per cent of the rats killed will die in their burrows. Based on the number of dead rats found during the campaign in conjunction with the total amount of bait taken, and compared with the amount that is considered to be lethal to a rat, it is evident that the rat population of the average Ontario farm is sufficient to warrant the regular application of control measures. In the fall and late winter or early spring when rats tend to enter or leave the farm building, one or two permanent bait stations, in situations where the greatest consumption of bait occurred, would be advisable to take care of occasional rat visitors".

Prof. Ozburn concluded that "at the present time, Warfarin is the best rodenticide available for use on farms by untrained individuals. Since it has a cumulative action and must be taken over a period of three to five days to be lethal, it is much less dangerous to use than certain other rodenticides, the initial dose of which can be fatal. Also in case of accidents, the slow action of Warfarin allows ample time for the administration of the antidote".



This is the Chateauguay District Farm Forum Council discussing plans for a Fall rally.

"What do we get out of Farm Forum?" seems to be a common question among some forum members as well as among our critics in the community. We can tell our friends that Farm Forum has revived rural community spirit—and it has. We can explain how we have come to really know and understand our neighbours—and we have. We can tell stories of our social good times together during the meetings—and what Forum wants that part done away with?

But when the critic keeps pressing his point "What has Farm Forum done for me?"—What then?

We should point out that Farm Forums in Quebec act as the only over-all farm organization for English-speaking farmers. We should mention the fact that Quebec Forums name one of three directors from the province to the Board of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. We have a direct channel open to us to the National Farm Organization. A good many things have happened in this field and we can take at least



part of the credit.

Yes, surely we need to "blow our own horn more", as a hackneyed phrase puts it. But far more important, we must pay due attention to the fellow who says . . .

"Let's Take Action"

The other problem or stumbling block to action is taking Farm Forum Topics (which often must be general in nature) and finding the local situation which relates to it. We have more to do along this line before our Farm Forums become satisfactory discussion — action groups.

But What Kind of Action?

The record of our Forum groups in community projects is excellent. Many 'burn-outs,' sick or disabled persons have had their Forum organize help. There are many places where Farm Forum has meant neater road-sides and homes in the neighbourhood. Calf-hood vaccination and warble-fly control are two other popular projects. Farm Forums have built or refinished community halls and have added new life and zest in many different ways. Other neighbourhoods now have a ploughed road in winter just because neighbours got together. Some groups save money by group purchasing of farm supplies. It really is fantastic the number and variety of projects that have grown out of neighbours "talking it over."

These projects have been important and are a sure indication of our awareness and desire to be doing something through our Farm Forums.

Let's Make Democracy Work!

There is, nevertheless, another field of action which all too often is sadly neglected. For some reason or other, only a very few groups make the effort to let their M.P., M.L.A. or Municipal Representative know where their Forum members stand on basic issues.

To hear some people talk you would think it was an 'unspeakable' thing to make your thoughts known to your M.P. or M.L.A. in an organized way. But after all, these people are our elected representatives and should serve all their constituents. There is no doubt it is hard

for your representative to serve various conflicting interests. But that does not mean that any sizeable group of constituents like farm people should ignore his place in our affairs. In many cases even when we are worked up about a problem we fail to make it known to anyone except to each other.

We need to face the fact that many of our pressing problems require some measure of public support for their solution. Your elected representatives cannot fail to appreciate your considered viewpoint. The Farm Forum tradition of considering all the facts and coming to a reasoned conclusion will stand you well.

National and Provincial Activity Alone is Not Enough

In the past we have put too much emphasis on channelling our problems through our Provincial and National farm organizations. It is true these top-level bodies are needed to co-ordinate our activities, present the facts and to follow up our activities at the local level. But we are mistaken—and, yes, even selling democracy short—if we bypass our parliamentary representatives and deal at the cabinet level only.

Much as many of us hate to admit it, most people are not really interested in 'just talking.' Sure, there are some of us who spend hours talking about a wide variety of subjects—but we don't likely intend to do anything about them. We are just talking about something or other because it is a pleasant way to spend our time. Others would sooner play cards, just gossip or head for the nearest hockey game or curling rink.

But take the same group of people and bring them together to solve a problem important to every member. What a difference you will find in their attitude. They will say "Here is something we can get our teeth into—we'll get some action on this."

Such a group will still enjoy themselves after their meetings and welcome the chance to be with their neighbours. And when your Farm Forum can say it has taken action on a problem—and everyone knows it and can see that it was a good thing to do—your critics usually become your most active supporters.

Two Things to Watch For

Even if your forum was more concerned with taking action on problems, action is no substitute for a good discussion. In fact, the Forum members will only give half-hearted support if they have not had a chance to express their opinion and make suggestions. Discussion should come *before* a suggested action—not someone suggesting action and then discussion of his proposal. When discussion comes only after a suggestion for action the group does not feel it is 'their idea.' In Farm Forum we encourage group decision on action after discussion of the facts.

Farm organization in the final analysis is not how effectively our top men talk for us but how effectively all of us carry out organized action at the local level.

Farm Forum plays its part as the educational arm of the Farm Movement. But to be effective Farm Forum must offer people an opportunity for doing more than



This summer meeting can take place indoors just as easily. Two or three people having a little nap, some talking to their neighbours. There is not much unified activity here.

'just discussing.' There is a need for the local Forum group to feel they are not powerless to take action on what they talk about.

The motto of our Forums is read—listen—discuss—ACT. Let's give more thought to following up our discussions.

J. T. Davidson.

Efficiency—Key to Profitable Farm Poultry

That the farm poultry flock can make quite a contribution to farm income is shown in a study made on Manitoba farms. Undertaken in 1949 by the Economics Division, Canada Department of Agriculture with the co-operation of the Provincial Government and the University of Manitoba, the study emphasizes that high efficiency is most important if the poultry enterprise is to be profitable.

The 49 farms included in the study averaged 270 acres with 80 per cent under cultivation. The farmers' labour earnings averaged \$3,100 with 13 per cent coming from poultry. But the earnings from poultry, which averaged \$395, varied greatly from a loss of \$10 for the lowest third of the farms, to a gain of \$939 for the highest third.

How were the higher earnings made? The size of the flock was important. The returns per bird varied from 44 cents for the smallest flocks to \$2.37 for the largest flocks. Proper feeding was also necessary for a high rate of production and to keep mortality low. Average returns for flocks with less than 140 eggs per layer were only 23 cents per bird; with an average production of over 180 they were \$3.64. Efficient use of labour, good working methods and use of labour-saving devices all added to higher returns. Capital was used more efficiently on the farms with high returns; they had large flocks of high producing birds.

The extent to which this overall high efficiency paid

off, is shown by labour returns per bird. They ranged from 75 cents where efficiency was below average in all respects to \$3.72 where efficiency was above average throughout.

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Ed Nofziger

Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"Do you think he knows no ducks would come here if we didn't manage this watershed right?"

Farming In The Middle East



Insect plagues and ancient methods of farming hinder food production throughout the Middle East. Where modern insecticides are used, however, man is overcoming one of his major enemies—the locust.

ONE of the worst locust plagues in living memory has just been overcome in Iraq by prompt action by local Government authorities, including aerial spraying of the modern petroleum-derived insecticide aldrin, of which Shell Oil Company has the sole manufacturing rights.

The earliest Biblical records show that, from the beginning of recorded history, locusts have always been a deadly scourge to the peoples of the Middle East. Breeding with incredible rapidity and swarming in their millions from one area to another, they spell disaster to the farmer who can see the results of months of hard work laid waste, in the space of an hour or two.

The effective manner in which the latest invasion has been overcome shows that modern science has now found an answer to this menace.

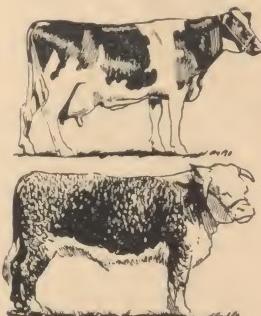
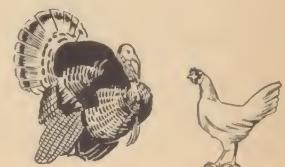
Originating in Ethiopia and in Somalia at the beginning of this year, the locust plague swarmed across the Red Sea and, by the end of February, had spread over Southern Iraq and Iran. The agricultural economy of Iraq was in immediate danger because most of the land between the Tigris and the Euphrates is under crops, including cereals, maize and vegetables. Control operations were started at once. They were of two kinds. Ground control was initiated by the Iraqi local governments who called on all available manpower for the application of poison bait. In areas where it would have been very difficult, if not impossible, to control with the bait method, arrangements were made for two Piper Cub aircraft to spray aldrin 60% emulsible concentrate from the air. The aircraft and pilots were supplied by the U.S. Government under the American Point Four program.

The aerial spraying program proved to be 100% successful. In the regions lying alongside the banks of the River Tigris, for example, where aircraft spraying

GOOD NUTRITION
DEPENDS ON YOUR
SOIL...

Soil fertility is a large factor in determining feed quality. A good nutrition program, therefore, is based on good land use . . . employing fertilizers, crop rotation and conservation methods. When your soil is deficient in certain minerals, your crops also lack them. This in turn means you use more supplements with your home-grown feeds if you are to achieve high production.

Today's hens are bred to lay over 200 eggs annually; turkeys to reach market weight 2 to 3 weeks earlier. High quality, balanced rations are needed to realize these potentialities.



Due to modern feeding methods, 15,000 lbs. of milk a year per cow is becoming common; as is a 2.5 lb. gain per day for steers. Although steers and cows are basically roughage converters, high quality supplements need to be added to their diet, if your herd is to meet these high production standards.



Litters of 10, weighing 40 lbs. each when weaned, and 200 lbs. at less than six months, are the aim of most hog feeders. Such records result from good breeding, feeding and management.



Get this new booklet on nutrition from your local manager.

was the only practical method of control because of the dense vegetation, heavily infested with hoppers, the locusts were reported to be completely eradicated after two days' work. The ground was literally covered with dead insects which were found in gullies and depressions to a depth of 3 to 4 inches. Aldrin not only eradicated 3rd and 4th stage hoppers within 48 hours but was found to be still effective 7 days later against a new invasion—a tribute to the residual effect of the insecticide.

It must be emphasized, however, that although the

aerial spraying operations produced spectacular results, they constituted only part of the whole program. The main instrument of control was the use of poison bait by men on the ground, which is still a very efficient and economical way of doing the job, and the prompt and co-operative action of the local governments made a vital contribution to the success of the campaign. How successful it was may be seen in the fact that, while Iraq spent 700,000 dollars of her own Budget on the project, crops valued at more than 110 times that amount were saved for the national economy.

Better Seed Means Better Grassland

by C. S. Garrison



This is Ranger seed alfalfa being grown in California.

Organization of the National Foundation Seed Project

THIRTY-FIVE states are now participating in the Foundation Seed Project. Cooperating agencies include the State agricultural experiment station, the State extension services, State seed certifying agencies, State foundation seed organizations, the International Crop Improvement Association, the American Seed Trade Association, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

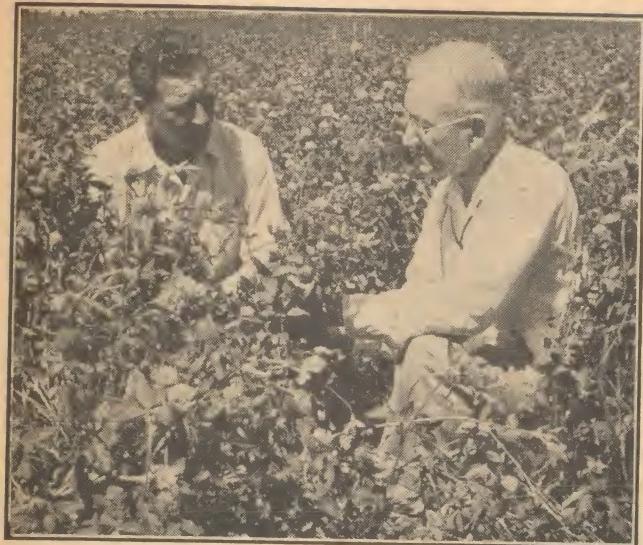
The Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, U.S. Department of Agriculture, furnishes personnel having the responsibility for the National and Regional leadership in the operational and coordinative phases of the program. The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) of the Production and Marketing Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, provides funds to assure the production and maintenance of adequate reserves of breeder and foundation seed, and in some cases registered seed. The CCC is the banker. It must be reimbursed in full for all monies used for the purchase of breeder, foundation, and registered seed plus a small percentage to cover operational costs.

The National Foundation Seed Project is one of the most important organizations set up in the United States during this century. Better and more productive grasslands are its responsibility for it controls the type and variety of seed which reach the farmers. In this concluding article Mr. Garrison describes the organization through which this project works.

The Foundation Seed Project is guided by a 16-man advisory committee called the Planning Committee. Its membership is composed of representatives from the State experiment stations, International Crop Improvement Association, American Seed Trade Association, Production and Marketing Administration, and the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering.

The Planning Committee is in turn advised by the Regional Forage Crops Technical Committee of which there are four in the United States, one in each of the four experiment station regions. The Forage Crops Technical Committees recommend to the Planning Committee varieties to be included in the Project, regions of adaptation for forage and seed production, estimated certified seed requirements, areas for the production of foundation and registered seed of each of the varieties, and any other information which will be of value in making possible the rapid build up of certified seed.

All arrangements for seed production within each state are the responsibility of the State foundation seed representative who is appointed by the State agricultural experiment station director. He is responsible for initiating the foundation seed work and handling production details in his state. Neither the Foundation Seed Project nor the state representative is involved directly in the job of producing seed. The actual production is done by growers and seedsmen in the usual manner except those growers with the best know-how are given priority.



Kenland Red Clover being grown on an irrigated ranch in California.

In accepting a variety it is agreed that all breeder and foundation seed of the variety will be available to the Planning Committee and the Project for allocation. Upon recommendation of the Planning Committee the Project personnel allocates the available breeder seed to qualified states for the production of foundation seed. Allocation is based on the previous history of seed production potentialities of that area, consideration of the wishes of the originating station and plant breeder, and other factors which will assure maximum returns of foundation seed for each pound of breeder seed allocated.

The state allotment of breeder seed goes to the state representative. Working with the groups within the state, he allocates to the seed growers and seedsmen who are known to be capable of producing the best quality of foundation seed. The state representative arranges for production contracts between the grower and the Commodity Credit Corporation covering the production and purchase of the foundation seed at a guaranteed price. All growers who receive breeder seed must agree to make available all foundation seed produced to the state representative and through him to the Project and the Planning Committee. All of it is assembled and stored in approved warehouses.

The Project personnel, again upon the recommendation of the Planning Committee, allocates the foundation seed to the states that have been designated as suitable for the production of registered seed. It again goes to the state representative who, working through the local state set-up, allocates it to growers and seedsmen as he did the breeder seed. Each grower who obtains foundation seed agrees to plant it for the production of registered seed with the understanding that every effort will be exercised to see that the registered seed is used for the production of certified seed. Ordinarily the Commodity

Credit Corporation contracts are not used to cover the production of registered seed, but at the discretion of the Planning Committee it is possible to purchase seed of this class in the initial stages of increase.

Most of the registered seed is sold on the open market by the grower as planting stock for the production of certified seed. Certified seed moves through the normal trade channels to the consuming area.

Already the cooperative planning of the Foundation Seed Project is paying high returns: in vastly increased supplies of seed of improved varieties; in farmer acceptance of these varieties; and in a growing awareness of their value as good forage producers. In the future, farmers will be able to take advantage of new creations by forage breeders much sooner than was possible in the past. From this Project is flowing the seed for the rich grasslands of many years to come.

Sister Records in Breeding for Egg Production . . .

Full sisters differ in their ability to transmit high egg producing qualities to their progeny, says Leonard Giesbach, poultry research officer at the Experimental Station, Fredericton, N.B. This was shown in an experiment in which sisters laying more eggs than the average for the family were compared with their sisters laying less than the family average. The progeny of the high group laid seven eggs per year more than the progeny of the low group—a significant increase. The average yearly production of all survivors in this flock was 224.5 eggs.

Current thought on the problem of breeding for egg production, tends to stress the value of family records and to discount the value of individual records, especially in high producing flocks. In this experiment, however, family selection alone was ineffective, whereas selection of individuals on the basis of their own performance was fairly effective even when family records were completely ignored.

Progress in breeding for increased egg production in improved flocks will undoubtedly be very slow even with the most effective known methods of selection—so much so in fact that the results may not seem to be worth the cost. But the information obtained from this experiment suggests that the use of only the high producing sisters of the high families would seem to provide one of the best guarantees of success, and that the selection of individuals on the basis of their own performance would be a valuable adjunct to this method of selection. It is obvious that breeders who have very large breeding flocks would be in an advantageous position from the standpoint of possibilities for improvement, since there would be a much wider basis for selection of the high individuals of full sister groups.

At The International Plowing Match



Championship plowing; first prize in the open class for horse-drawn plows.

PERSEVERANCE paid off for two dairy-farmer plowmen who won the Esso Trans-Atlantic plowing match held at Carp, Ont., as a climax to four days of competition. Algie Wallace of North Gower had tried for six consecutive years to win the coveted competition, which carries as its reward a gold medal and a six week's free trip to Europe. He and his horse team made it on the seventh try.

In the tractor class, Douglas Reid, who placed third last year, was the winner. The two gold medalists will be guests of Imperial Oil on a six-week's visit to the British Isles, and during their trip they expect to compete against some of Europe's finest plowmen at the British Plowing Association national championships held at Falkirk in Scotland.

A big plowing match like the International is something that must be seen to be appreciated. Something like 450 expert plowmen were competing this year, drawn from most of the counties in Ontario, from Quebec, New York, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Kansas, the two Dakotas, even from Great Britain. Apart from the top prize, the trip overseas, they were competing for hundreds of cash prizes running to a top of \$150, and averaging out at about \$20 each, to say nothing of the fame of being named champion county, provincial and international champions.

But there was more to the event than the plowing contests. The International is an agricultural show in the best sense of the word; an exhibition of farm equipment, supply and service firms, demonstrations by agricultural clubs; something for everybody, be he from the country or the city, and all without the distractions of the rides, wheels of fortune and other items that are tending to detract from the educational value of the typical county fair these days.

Then there were the demonstrations; of practical value to the farmers in the huge crowd and of great interest to the city folk. There was, for example, the construction of a farm pond with bulldozer and drag line. There was a demonstration of what could be done with grain corn in this part of the country which attracted a lot of interest. The latest in drainage methods, and the machinery with which to do the work, were explained to an interested crowd, many of whom had a lot of trouble with wet fields this spring and summer. Farm machinery companies went all-out to display the very latest implements and attachments of all sorts, and their demonstrators went to a great deal of trouble to explain the operation and functions of their various machines.

Then there were the pasture and forage plot displays, demonstrations of corn picking and soya bean picking, a tree planting display by the Department of Lands and Forests, seed cleaning and spraying demonstrations, and a display of firefighting equipment.

Also on display in the big hangar was the model showing how Ottawa will look when the recommendations of the Greber Plan have been put into effect, and near it the Ontario Hydro Commission had its huge scale model of the changes that will be brought about through the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

It is a tremendous undertaking to organize an affair like this, which is sponsored by the Ontario Plowmen's Association. There are tents to be erected to house the exhibits, and the eating places, most of which were operated by Women's Institutes, church organizations, etc. The site covered 835 acres; 600 for the actual plowing, 35 for the city of 500 tents, and 200 for parking. Power lines and water pipes had to be brought in and connected, communication systems had to be installed, roads had to be bulldozed into existence. Fire protection and first aid service had to be organized. And some means of transporting the thousands of visitors from one place to another had to be worked out. This was very competently done by the Lanark Junior Farmers with tractor-powered farm wagons.

Attendance on the second day of the match, attracted by the much-publicized contest between Mayor Whitton of Ottawa and Mayor Lamport of Toronto was so large that traffic got completely snarled, and it took one car we know of an hour and a quarter to get out of the grounds. On the whole, however, no attendance records were broken, but the match did accomplish one of the aims of the sponsors, the Ontario Plowmen's Association, namely, to give a realistic view of the skill required to plow acceptably, and to indicate something of the investment in machinery that is necessary for large-scale farming these days.

Held just outside Ottawa, the match brought out many city folk, who were obviously impressed and keenly interested by everything they saw. They added some new words like crown, finish, skimmer, etc. to their vocabularies. They were able to see for themselves what makes a good job of plowing—the straight furrows of uniform depth and width, with the sod well covered, and were fascinated by the "handing" that was allowed in some of the matches. Their interest was evident by the number of questions the officials were called upon to answer, questions that invariably received courteous and informative replies.



Match officials were kept busy answering questions.

Veterinary Topics

by D. G. Dale, D.V.M.

This year the poultryman and the hatchery operator will find there has been some changes made in the Provincial Government Pullorum Control programme. Aimed at increasing the value of poultry flocks in the province, the new programme should help considerably in reducing the incidence of pullorum outbreaks among the newly hatched chicks next spring.

Under the new arrangements owners supplying eggs to certified hatcheries must have their flocks certified as "Pullorum free". The provincial government provides the necessary report forms and rapid test antigen to the veterinarian selected by the poultryman, and also supplies leg-bands for the flock. A grant of two cents per bird is paid to the poultryman to help him defray the expense of the test. Agronomes or poultry instructors may conduct the blood test in lieu of a veterinarian, except that in such cases the slow or tube test is to be used, and the blood samples submitted to a provincial laboratory for diagnosis. In the latter case the grant of two cents per bird is not paid, as the government laboratory and poultry instructor service is free.

While we are considering poultry it would perhaps be well to mention that several cases of fowl cholera have been diagnosed from autopsy specimens submitted to the Federal Government laboratory at Macdonald College. All cases observed have occurred in turkeys; one large operator lost several hundred of his flock. The total monetary loss during this particular outbreak ran into several thousands of dollars.

Fowl cholera is an infectious disease of all poultry caused by an organism belonging to the same genera as the "Shipping Fever" organism of cattle, sheep and swine. Unlike the disease in cattle it does not always occur as an acute infection, but rather as a localized infection of various organs, and in such cases the total mortality is not high, although lameness due to joint involvement renders many of the survivors useless. Involvement of the sinuses, ears, wattles and eyes have also been described as occurring during the outbreaks of the localized or chronic form of Fowl Cholera.

In the highly acute or septicaemia form of the disease, birds which were apparently healthy, may be found dead the next day. On post mortem of such birds the pathology is often not clear cut, and a laboratory diagnosis by bacteriological means is essential to confirm the suspicion of cholera.

Once a diagnosis has been established it is necessary to apply strict sanitary measures to control the spread of the disease. The healthy portion of the flock should be removed if possible, to new quarters. The taking of rectal temperatures often acts as a guide in detecting birds in the early stages of the disease. A temperature of over 107.5° is considered to indicate infection. Obviously sick birds should be destroyed, and the carcasses burnt or buried. The litter should be removed from the pen in which the outbreak occurred, and burnt, or otherwise disposed of. Complete disinfection of the houses and equipment in the infected pens completes the necessary sanitary measures.

Treatment of mildly affected birds, or early cases, with sulfonamides often produces good results. It should be mentioned that it is necessary to use much higher doses of sulfa than is recommended for the control of coccidiosis. As the dose will vary with the size of the affected birds a veterinarian should be consulted in this regard. Vaccination has not proven effective in controlling this disease. In the case of the costly outbreak in turkeys referred to in the first part of this article, the history would appear to indicate that the infection had been introduced into the flock by means of several birds returned from an exhibition. The advisability of quarantine of all livestock returning from shows before they are again mixed with the home stock is well illustrated by this outbreak.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

Prices Pleased Quebec Beefmen

They decided to hold the Sherbrooke Winter Fair a little later in the season this year, taking a calculated risk with the weather in order to give the exhibitors a bit more time on the farm in early October. The fair was held from October 13th to 16th, and the weather obliged practically everybody except the photographers, who, since the judging finished late on the third afternoon, had to wait until the morning of the sale to get their pictures; and the heavy clouds (which cleared up just before noon) made picture taking difficult. What rain there was obligingly held off until after the cattle parade the evening before the sale.

Market cattle offerings were a few less than last year; offerings at the sale, that is. This year there were 93 head to be disposed of, compared with 101 last year, but 15 were culled before the show as against 9 last fall. In other words, 108 steers were brought to Sherbrooke this year, 110 last year.

Another Black Champion

The Grand Champion was an Angus, shown by Harold Lockwood of Danville, which weighed in at 952 pounds. The reserve went to John Ross' Shorthorn that placed second to the Angus in the same class in the judging, and won his breed championship.

Shorthorns dominated the show in numbers; there were 55 of them, 21 Herefords and 17 black cattle. They

placed first in three of the five market classes; in the 650-750 class Mrs. Mary Smith stood first, with H. B. Birch of Hillhurst taking second and third prizes. The next class went to a Shorthorn also, when Mrs. Pitfield, of Saraguay, saw her steer go to the top, with Ross Edward's entry in second place, followed by that of John Nichol. The third class was the one that produced the champion and the reserve champion, but Shorthorns came back to win class four for Mrs. T. C. Stuart. Robert Nichol's Hereford won the heavy class and the breed championship.

Out of a total showing of 67 market lambs, the champion wether was a 78 pounder shown by the Austin Syndicate; Slack Bros. came up with the reserve. The best pen of 3 hogs was the entry of Conrad Prince of St. Wenceslas, and the award for the best pen of 5 went to Francois Montmagny, of St. Gilles.

Sale Prices Were Good

The "regulars" who have attended most or all the winter fair sales all agreed that they had never seen such a whirlwind sale as this year's, when auctioneer M. Zeron of Iroquois put through 93 market cattle in just 75 minutes. The buyers took a little time to get on to his style, but after the first few had been knocked down, they were going through so fast that the staff had a hard time keeping up with the sales.



Lockwood's Angus steer that was grand champion in the market cattle show, and Robert Nichol's champion calf club calf and grand champion Hereford.



The grand and reserve champion wethers.

Steinbergs Limited bought the grand champion steer for \$1.38 a pound, up 13 cents from the \$1.25 they paid last year. Henry Gatehouse got the reserve champion for 85 cents, and Steinberg's took the champion Hereford for 50 cents. From then on down the list prices fluctuated from 47 cents to 35 cents to make the sale average 42½ cents on a total money value of \$36,351.10.

The irrepressible Charlie Morantz was a heavy buyer, taking 20 animals, and Eaton's was the second largest buyer, bidding in 15 head. Wilsil's took 10, and other large buyers were Canada Packers, Steinberg's, Dominion Stores and Pesner Bros. Exhibitors and officials were well satisfied with prices, which were very favourable in relation to present market prices. A fair market price for this quality of beef would be in the vicinity of 30 cents.

Sheep

The grand champion wether went to Eaton's for a whopping \$3.10, which was a gain of \$1.10 over last year's bid. The reserve wether went for \$2.05, also to Eatons, who bought four other lots as well. Other sales of lambs were to Charlie Morantz, Wes. Nichol, Henry Gatehouse, Canada Packers and Steinberg's. The Montreal Livestock Exchange bid in a pen of eight as a donation to the Children's Memorial Hospital. Total lamb sales amounted to \$2,637.67 for an average price per pound of 50.8 cents, up about five cents from last year.



Undoubtedly the youngest lad who ever led a steer into the Sherbrooke Ring is Pierre Cournoyer of St. Edwidge.

Hogs

Prices for prize hogs were away up from last year. Conrad Prince saw his first prize pen of 3 knocked down to Canada Packers for \$2.05, and Francois Montmagny, exhibiting for the first time at the winter fair, got \$1.15 from Modern Packers for his pen of five. Prices were on a dressed weight basis, and the estimated average works out to about 43 cents, which is well above last year. This average, of course, would be lower were it not for the high prices paid for the first two lots. There were 76 hogs in the sale.

The gross intake from market cattle, sheep and hogs was \$44,278.37.



Ringwood Domitone 18, grand champion in the Hereford breeding classes, bred by Geo. Rodanz of Stouffville, Ont. and shown by Hon. C. D. French.

Breeder's Sale

Shorthorns to the number of 109 outnumbered other breeds at the breeding stock show held at Sherbrooke at the Winter Fair; Herefords came out 61 strong, and the Angus show brought out two herds, those of Dr. G. R. McCall of Lachute and of L. S. Porter of St. Andrews, to the number of 17 head.

Mrs. W. C. Pitfield of Saraguay and Ross Edwards of Hillhurst were at the forefront of the competition in the Shorthorn classes, but faced strong competition from Jean Godbout, Tutira Farms (Mrs. T. C. Stuart), C. C. Warner, E. S. Watson and J. P. McIntosh. In the championship classes Edwards had the senior and grand champion female, and the junior female; and placed top with his get of sire and his breeder's herd, and won a number of the individual classes. Mrs. Pitfield had the senior and grand champion bull, the reserve junior bull, and won two of the group classes. J. P. McIntosh had the reserve senior female champion, and Mrs. Stuart the reserve junior and reserve grand female. C. C. Warner got the ribbon for the reserve senior bull champion, and Jean Godbout had the junior and reserve grand bull champion. The progeny of dam class was won by George Hoy's entries.

Herefords from Greenhills Farm did well by their owner. They took the ribbons for the junior and reserve

junior male championships, for senior and grand female championship, and won three group classes, get of sire, breeders' herd and junior herd. C. D. French had the senior and grand champion female, E. T. Webster the reserve. Robert Nichol showed the junior and reserve grand female champion, and Netherdale Farms had reserve junior female and took the progeny of dam class. Tanner Bros. had the reserve senior female champion.

In the Angus classes the McCall entries had things their own way in most of the classes; they took all the male championships and the groups, but stood down to L. S. Porter's entries in the junior female championship and reserve grand championship classes.



Miss Painter has the highest individual score in beef cattle judging.

Club won a very close battle in the judging contest, nosing out the second-place team of Ardyth Painter and Daryl Lowry of Island Brook by a single point: 1060 to 1059, thereby earning themselves the coveted trip to Toronto. Miss Painter was the winner of the Department of Agriculture cup for the high individual scorer, and she was also the high scorer in the open judging competition, open to anybody between the ages of 12 and 21.

In the open competition, the contestants had to place a class of Shorthorn heifers and one of Aberdeen Angus steers. In the Shorthorn event, Miss Painter scored 96, with Rafael Sharman close on her heels with 95. Miss Painter also stood first in judging the steers with 93 points, and John Nichol and Rafael Sharman tied for second place with 90 each. The junior showmanship event was won by Robert Nichol, with Miss Painter runner-up.

Placings in the inter-club calf competition were as follows; first and second placings only are given.

Purebred Hereford heifers:.....R. Nichol, A. Lyon
Purebred Shorthorn heifers:.....Chas. Warner, W. Gaulin
Grade heifers:.....Betty Painter, Billy Buck



The grand champion in the Shorthorn breeding class; Lancaster May, sired by Cluny Potentate (imp.), out of Roxboro Lancaster. Bred by Ross Edwards of Hillhurst.

Lennoxville Team

Goes To Toronto

Junior farmers closed their public activities for the year at Sherbrooke on October 13 and 14, when the elimination contests for selection of Quebec's beef cattle junior judges for Toronto were held. Showmanship contests and showings of beef club calves were also highlights of the two-day meeting.

Rafael Sharman and Charlie Warner of the Lennoxville

team won a very close battle in the judging contest, nosing out the second-place team of Ardyth Painter and Daryl Lowry of Island Brook by a single point: 1060 to 1059, thereby earning themselves the coveted trip to Toronto. Miss Painter was the winner of the Department of Agriculture cup for the high individual scorer, and she was also the high scorer in the open judging competition, open to anybody between the ages of 12 and 21.

In the open competition, the contestants had to place a class of Shorthorn heifers and one of Aberdeen Angus steers. In the Shorthorn event, Miss Painter scored 96, with Rafael Sharman close on her heels with 95. Miss Painter also stood first in judging the steers with 93 points, and John Nichol and Rafael Sharman tied for second place with 90 each. The junior showmanship event was won by Robert Nichol, with Miss Painter runner-up.

Placings in the inter-club calf competition were as follows; first and second placings only are given.

Purebred Hereford heifers:.....R. Nichol, A. Lyon
Purebred Shorthorn heifers:.....Chas. Warner, W. Gaulin
Grade heifers:.....Betty Painter, Billy Buck

Champion heifer:	..... Chas. Warner
Reserve	..... R. Nichol
Warner special prize:	..... W. Gaulin
Hereford steer:	..... R. Nichol, John Nichol
Shorthorn steer:	..... Bill Cloutier, W. Gaulin
Champion steer:	..... R. Nichol
Reserve:	..... John Nichol
Pair class: steer and heifer:	..... R. Nichol, J. Nichol



Quebec's beef judging team for the Royal: Rafael Sharman and Charlie Warner.

Provincial Bureau of Statistics figures just released show a general increase in the numbers of livestock on Quebec farms as at June 1, 1952. Figures for the different classes are as follows:

Cattle	..... 1,808,000	4.6% increase from 1951
Hogs	..... 1,312,000	18.4% increase
Sheep	..... 337,100	6.5% increase
Horses	..... 221,000	5.1% decrease
Hens	..... 9,875,000	2.1% decrease
Turkeys	..... 440,000	4.0% increase
Geese	..... 13,000	no change
Ducks	..... 49,000	no change

Consignment Sales Held

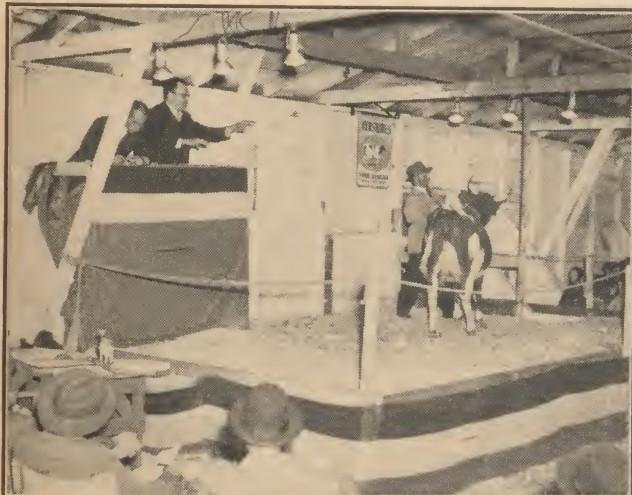
Both Holstein and Ayrshire breeders held consignment sales during October, both in the arena at St. Hyacinthe. Total intake at the Holstein sale, for 70 head, was \$35,405, for an average of \$520.

Top price was \$2,000 paid by W. K. MacLeod, Thetford Mines, to F. A. Ayerst, Ormstown, for Glen Ayerst RA Ballerina, a bred heifer. Her sire is Eglantiers RA General, grand champion at Ormstown Exhibition for four consecutive years, and her dam is Mount Blow Bell Pabst who has been classified excellent, and has a yearly record of 22,850 pounds milk containing 853 pounds fat, average test 3.73 percent butterfat.

Second high price and top for a bull was \$1,000 paid by La Gruyere Farm, Stanbridge East, Que., to Brown Corporation, La Tuque, for Browns Abegweit Leander, a 12 months old bull calf. He is out of a daughter of the XXX sire Montvic RA Master and the sire is a son of the noted Abegweit Widow with a seven lactation lifetime record of 129,485 pounds milk containing 5,601 lbs. fat, average test 4.32 percent butterfat.

MacLeod also paid the top price for a milking female of \$850, this for a two-year-old consigned by J. A. Meyer, Lachute.

Sale manager was W. A. Hodge and auctioneer L. E. Franklin.



The Ayrshire sale, held a week later, realized an average of \$275.66 for 30 head, a fair price under present market conditions for the offerings. Jean Paul Lagace of St. Hyacinthe paid the top price of \$360 for Bois de la Roche Maligne 22nd, bred and consigned by Mrs. Alice Skinner of Senneville. The sire is Bois de la Roche Cherron, a Class AA, R.O.P. sire with 24 tested daughters with 40 records averaging 7710 pounds milk, 325 pounds fat testing 4.22. Her dam is Bois de la Roche Maligne 18th.

Jos. St. Louis of Waterloo paid the second high price of \$345 to J. G. Wilson, St. Valentin, for Alderwood Willow, a daughter of Alderwood Mimi, sired

by Brookview Highlight, junior champion at Ottawa and Lachute in 1948.

Among these who bought more than one animal were Hon. Adelard Godbout, the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Sherbrooke, Albert Dupuis of Henryville and Francis Lamarre, St. Sebastien.

Although there was a good crowd of potential buyers around the ring, bidding was extremely slow, most of the crowd seeming content to look on and let someone else start the ball rolling. Auctioneer Daniel Beauregard worked hard for his bids. The sale was opened by N. Kelly, president of the Quebec Club, and Francois Boulais was on hand with information on pedigrees.

A New Organization In Quebec

Bruno Landry, the assistant director of the Provincial Horticultural Service, was chairman of a meeting in Montreal recently when the foundations for a Provincial Canner's Association were laid.

The new organization will endeavour to act as a clearing house for all problems connected with the canning industry. It will work for better relations between the various firms engaged in the business; will recommend legislation to favour continued development of the industry; will try to implement measures to improve the quality of the finished products. Through it, co-operation between the canning plants and the federal and provincial governments will be maintained as well as with the experimental stations, and the agricultural colleges, so that the canners can keep in touch with the latest developments in agricultural science. Information on new processes, as well as news of markets, stocks available, sales requirements, and so forth will be channelled through the Association to the individual canners. It is also hoped that it will be possible to organize short courses for production managers, foremen, and fieldmen, and to provide publicity for the canners' products through the press and radio.

Another project being studied by the newly formed Association is the possibility of arranging an accident and hospitalization insurance scheme for cannery workers and their families. Information will be compiled on the amount and value of canned products imported into the province, and experiments organized to determine which are the best varieties to grow in Quebec for canning purposes.

Total value of maple products harvested in Quebec during the 1952 season amounted to \$10,095,000, from 2,777,000 gallons of syrup and 2,020,000 pounds of sugar. The average price received by Quebec farmers for their crop was \$3.33, or 22 cents lower than the 1951 average. But the larger crop (the 1951 make was 1,759,000 gallons and 1,500,000 pounds) brought the gross value to the highest since 1947, when the total income was \$11,058,000.

An International Enterprise

An Italian Owner and her Swiss Farm Manager run Holstein Cattle on an Eastern Quebec Farm

Madame la Comtesse Feltrinelli is an Italian noblewoman whose absorbing passion is to acquire and improve land. This is not in itself unique; most of us would confess to the same ambition. But Madame la Comtesse, reputed to be one of the wealthiest women in Italy, is in the fortunate position of being able to indulge herself in her love for property. She owns vineyards in Italy, coffee and cotton plantations in Brazil, and has recently added a dairy farm in Eastern Quebec to her holdings. On this new farm she has the beginnings of what is expected to become one of the largest Holstein herds in the country.

On a visit to Switzerland a few years ago Madame meet Pierre Robidaie, then inspector-general of cheese products for the Swiss government. She learned that he had spent some time in Canada and was familiar with farming conditions here. As a matter of fact, he came to Canada in 1924 and spent four years in the Malbaie district investigating the possibilities of setting up a Gruyere cheese industry in this province.

Madame Feltrinelli commissioned him to come to Canada and find a place where she could start an up-to-date dairy farm. He decided that it should be somewhere in Quebec, and after investigating a number of possible sites, he chose the Stanbridge East district as offering the best conditions for their purpose. On his advice, Madame bought the four Baker farms, with their stock and equipment, and the Gilmore farm, making a holding of some 1000 acres.

This was a little less than two years ago, and nothing has been spared in getting ready for large-scale, high-quality milk production. No major purchases of farm implements had to be made, but a lot of money has been spent in changes and improvements in the barns and living quarters on the farm. An ultra-modern dairy



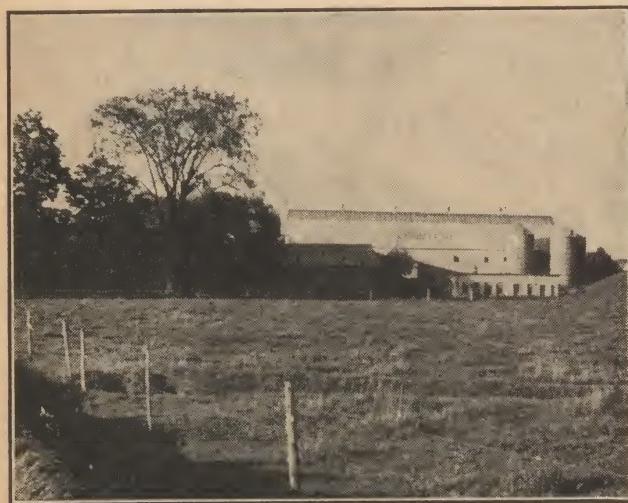
Countess Feltrinelli discusses a point with her farm manager, Pierre Robidaie.

has been built, and in it and in the milking parlour which accommodates twelve cows at a time, white tile gleams on the walls and radios pour out music to entertain both cows and workers. The milking parlour is claimed to be the only one of its kind in Canada, and the twelve cows are put through in record time. Each milking machine delivers its milk to a glass bottle suspended from a scale. When milking is complete, the weight is noted and the milk is then allowed to flow direct to the dairy for pasteurization and processing; at no time does it ever come into contact with the air, much less with any other possible source of contamination. At the present time the milking cows are housed in a regulation barn, but a loafing barn is to be built soon.

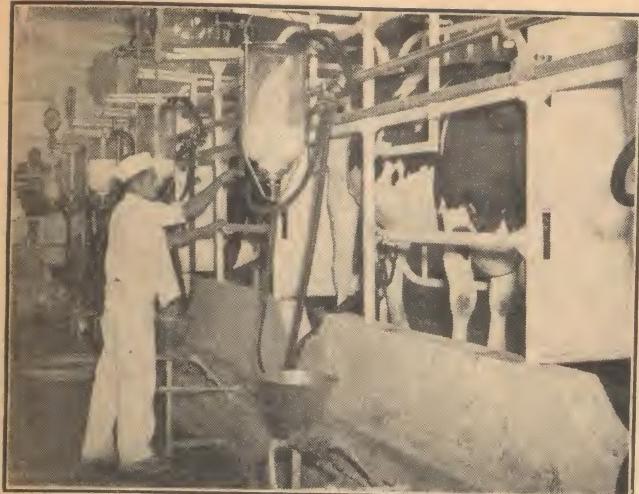
Farm to be Self-Supporting

Mr. Robidaie, who is acting as farm manager, assisted by his son, realizes that a farm should grow the feed that is needed for the stock, and that purchases of feed must be kept to an absolute minimum for economical operation. This summer they had 68 head milking and a total population on the farm of 130 head, and not a pound of feed was bought last winter. They hope to double the size of the herd within the next two years, and expect to eventually have 300 head milking all the time. In any event, it is the intention to build up the herd to the limit of the capacity of the farm to grow feed. They use grass silage in preference to corn, and the large pit silo, built just to the rear of the big barn, is filled with some 1000 tons in preparation for the coming winter.

The milk is to be used to make yogurt. This product has come to the fore in Canada in recent years as a nutritious, high-calorie food, and it is confidently expected that there will be a market for all that can be made



La Gruyere Farm is a landmark in the Stanbridge district.



This ultra-modern milking parlour handles twelve cows at a time.

on La Gruyere Farm. At the present time they are turning out between 1000 and 1500 containers a day, using cultures from the Rosell Bacteriological Dairy Institute at Oka.

Prof. Gustave Toupin, who, on account of his connection with the Rosell Institute, is particularly interested in this development, feels that the three essentials for success in a dairy operation are being met at La Gruyere. He cites these as follows. The farm must be able to grow all the feed needed for the livestock it carries. The organization must be large enough to allow for economical operation and to produce milk in large volume. The herd must be good—preferably pure-bred. The first two conditions have already been met at La Gruyere; it is a large operation which will be expanded to the utmost as quickly as possible. And while there has not been much time yet for a breeding programme to get underway, he hopes that it will not be long before the herd has such a reputation that farmers from the surrounding country will be coming to La Gruyere to buy breeding stock for their own herds.

Annual Sheep Sale Held

The Department of Agriculture was the major buyer at the sheep sale held in Sherbrooke on October 21st, taking 125 head including 19 rams.

Average price for the 81 rams sold worked out at \$30.77 a bit below what the breeders had hoped for. Females brought an average of \$25.32 for 143 head, and prices here were in general satisfactory.

The sale, organized by the Eastern Townships Sheep Breeder's Association, brought in total receipts of \$6,113.50.

More Grass, Less Meal

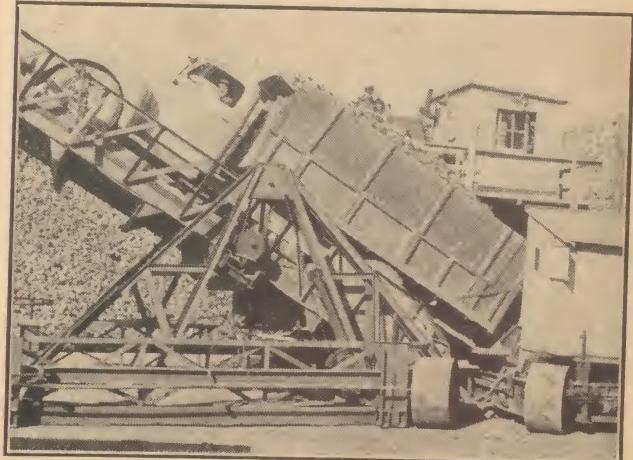
The experimental Farms demonstrated the results that can be obtained in raising beef cattle on pasture and silage, with a minimum of meal. The two steers, which brought 36 and 37 cents a pound in the sale, weighed in at 1134 and 1076 pounds at 30 months of age.

During their lifetime of 921 days, they were fed $1\frac{1}{4}$ tons of hay, $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons of grass silage, and spent 464 days on pasture. During the first wintering period they were fed a little grain, and were finished on pasture, one with and the other without grain. During his lifetime the larger one consumed $\frac{2}{3}$ ton of grain, the smaller one, $\frac{1}{3}$ ton.

The average quantity of the various feeds consumed by the steers was

Hay	2,452 pounds
Silage	15,000 pounds
Meal	762 and 1436 pounds
Pastured	464 days

Obviously, grass, roughage and silage, with a minimum amount of meal, can bring beef steers to market weight with a minimum of cost.



The beets are pouring in from all directions to the sugar refinery at St. Hilaire. Unloading is a fast business; the whole truck is up-ended and the beets roll out.

A new bulletin on loose housing of dairy cattle is ready for distribution, and may be had, free, on application to Information Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Ask for Bulletin 874.

For some time officials of the Animal Husbandry and the Engineering Divisions of the C.E.F. have been studying this method, and this bulletin, which includes chapters on requirements for a loose housing unit, its management, and estimated labour requirements as compared with the usual method, sums up their conclusions.

Townships Plowmen Turn Their Furrows

When the horses and tractors moved out to start plowing on the Lennoxville Experimental Farm fields last month, it marked the opening of the seventy-third annual plowing match under the sponsorship of the Sherbrooke Plowmen's Association. But there have been some changes since the first match sod was turned so many years ago.

We haven't got the figures for the early days, but we do know that when the sixtieth anniversary match was staged, there were sixty teams plowing, and perhaps eight or ten men plowing with tractors. This year there were forty-one tractors, and only sixteen teams of horses.

The match draws financial support from the Quebec Department of Agriculture, and local merchants and business firms offer a number of merchandise and cash prizes in all the classes. This year there were nine regular match classes, plus a number of special prizes—best plowing with a certain make of tractor, best teams, neatest outfits, etc.



The two youngest; Garth Beattie and Dale Douglas.

They start plowing young in the Sherbrooke district. The two youngest lads in the match were both of the ripe age of seven, though Garth Beattie was a few months younger than his classmate and fellow competitor Dale Douglas. Garth placed sixth in Class 6, and Dale seventh. Both boys were doing a job plowing that their elders might well have envied and handled their tractors like veterans with no thought for anything but keeping those furrows straight. At the other end of the scale was Hiram McLeod of Sherbrooke, who at 76 was the oldest plowman in the match. It is a sign of the times, we suppose, that the youngest were plowing with tractors and the oldest with horses.

Judges for the plowing were Lem Clark, Mel Page, Stan Hamilton and Henry Johnston. H. R. Ross judged the horses and W. G. MacDougall was the hard-working secretary who kept everything running smoothly.

Winners in the various events were as follows.

1. Any kind of plow, open to all comers:
Jean R. Labbe, Lennoxville.
2. Jointer plow with skimmer, no wheels:
Ed. Sarrasin, Waterville.
3. Jointer plow with skimmer, wheels:
Douglas Page, Sherbrooke.
4. Walking plows, boys under 18:
Philippe Berard, Rock Forest.
5. Walking plows, boys over 18:
Henry Musty, Lennoxville.
6. Tractors, boys and girls under 18:
Walter Winget, Lennoxville.
7. Trailer plows, open to all comers:
Turner Hunter, Barnston.
8. Other than trailers, open to all:
Everett Beattie, Lennoxville.
9. Open class, trailer or non-trailer:
Herbert Winget, Sherbrooke.

Agricultural Show For Montreal

This winter the Department of Agriculture will cooperate with producers, agricultural organizations and business firms in a new type of agricultural and food display, the first of its type in the province. Known as the Agricultural Show, it will be held in the big new Show Mart in Montreal.

The chairman of the organizing committee is Prof. Gustave Toupin, President of La Corporation des Agronomes de la Province de Quebec, and Mayor Houde will be the Honourary President. Other members of the executive committee planning the show are Alderman J. O. Asselin, Nolasque April, Prof. W. A. Maw, Berthold Mongeau, and Alfred Savoie of Dominion Stores, and the manager is Gabriel Renaud.

The Agricultural Show will not be a series of contests between producing farmers, such as one sees at the usual fair or exhibition, but rather a demonstration of all the many and varied activities connected with food production. It is being staged purely as an educational display to bring before the public the latest developments in producing, processing and merchandizing of farm products. There will be exhibits of meat and poultry products, milk products, eggs, vegetables, flowers, farm machinery and other items.

The Show will be supported by a number of organizations, including the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, the Quebec Poultry Industry Committee, the Holstein Freisian Association of Quebec, the Quebec Branch of the Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association, and many others. Committees representing field crops, livestock, horticulture, poultry, agricultural engineering and farm machinery have already been appointed and are hard at work with preparations.

Dates for the big show have been set for February 16 to 22, 1953.



THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

Zinnias for the School Fair

by E. V. Brown

Every Canadian who has dug a spade into a garden knows very well that climate, soil and water play important parts in plant growth. In order for our junior gardeners to be more successful in their school fair work, perhaps the parents could help them select more appropriate places for these gardens. Once the place has been selected have the children begin immediately to prepare a comfortable bed for the seeds they will receive in the spring, either from the local agronomist or from the W.I. in your locality.

What better plant for us to concentrate on this time than the zinnia, (since it is one of the flowers always included in the seed collection to be grown and exhibited.) It gives such a spectacular show for so little effort, it comes into bloom in mid-summer, lasts right through until fall, and when at their best these Mexican born annuals bring masses of colour to thousands of Canadian gardens every year.

These annuals can be sown in the ground early in June and are very adaptable to your vegetable garden, if you wish. Always remember not to sow them too thickly if you want strong healthy plants. Let us remember our Scottish up-bringing and leave some seeds in the packet. Undoubtedly for best display in the garden the zinnias should be set five or seven plants to a group, of one colour and variety, and about 8 to 12 inches apart each way to give a good mass of colour.

Zinnias like to be watered well. Give them a morning drink so the leaves will dry quickly. This way you will avoid the formation of mildew. Always remember not to over-water because this way leads to stem rot.

Zinnias are surface feeders so they should not be planted too deeply, and care should be taken when cultivating them so that their roots will not be disturbed.

Anyone who has had any experience in gardening will have discovered that zinnias are among the easiest flowers to grow and have few enemies. Perhaps you have found that the stem borer has given you trouble. If you spray or dust the zinnias with a 5% DDT solution, or with an arsenic compound, you can quite easily keep these pests under control.

If you want to grow large blossoms for exhibition purposes thin out the flower buds and have only five or six buds to a plant. Always cut zinnias early in the morning, or late in the evening, (they are at their best

then) and place in deep water for three or four hours before you make your flower arrangements.

Let us encourage our juniors in their school gardens, and see they become acquainted with the soil and our Canadian flowers. Invite guests into their gardens, where perhaps others who have never gardened before may receive inspiration, and see that the flowers are shared. A bouquet of flowers, now and again, may give just that zest for living to some one with an attack of "blues", which seems to descend now and again upon the happiest of us Canadians.

Let all the children take part in this project and here's to bigger and better School Fairs for next year.

What's New in the Office

The second edition of the Program Manual is now in your hands. You will note some courses have been dropped, others added; changes which have evolved based on the needs and wishes of you, our W.I. members, so it is really you who have fashioned it, which makes it yours in a very real sense of the word. Study it carefully and make good use of it. Notice Mrs. LeBaron's comment in the foreword, "The courses are primarily for members of the Women's Institutes; however, interested persons of the community may participate if numbers permit."

Have you seen the new Junior and Counsellor Handbook? Many complimentary remarks have been received on its appearance and content. Miss Campbell and her Junior Committee are to be congratulated on this splendid accomplishment. Did you know that four new Junior branches were organized this fall? These are in Stanbridge East, Port Daniel-Shigawake, Scotstown and Athelstan. This makes a total of seven (Bury, Warden, Rawdon) and two more prospects. Can't the Seniors take a leaf out of their book and start an organizing campaign also? There are many English speaking rural women in Quebec who should be in the W.I. Our beloved Mrs. Smallman, in a recent letter, said "I would like to see every farm woman in this province a member of the Institute. Do you think I am setting my sights high?"

Renewals in the Canadian Association of Consumers were due in September. Have you sent in yours yet? Can you get new members? The fee is still 50 cents but will be higher next year. There will be more about that later. The fees may be sent to office or direct to the provincial CAC office in Montreal. The address is Room 150-Sun Life Building. Our national president,

Mrs. Hugh Summers, was returned to the Board of Directors, along with 12 other presidents of national women's organizations, at the annual CAC meetings held in Toronto the end of September. Alison Grant, of the CBC, is making much use of material from CAC sources for her daily broadcast, 2.15—3.00 p.m., with the series opened by Mrs. J. R. Walton, the national CAC president. Do you remember the survey on high oven stoves? Miss Grant was very interested in the comments made at the meeting on this subject and used that for one of her broadcasts. Our own president, Mrs. LeBaron, is a member of the Provincial CAC Board of Directors.

A request for information about our Leadership Training Course has been received from Lady Eleanor Cole, Kenya, East Africa. She had seen the item in the ACWW news sheet and felt it might be adapted to the work in her own society. It is gratifying to know our small Q.W.I. has something to offer other groups in the ACWW.

Since the Convention more orders have been received from branches wishing to take advantage of our contract account at Eaton's store in Montreal. Perhaps many of you had forgotten about this service until your delegate brought it again to your attention. Here are the details once more. If you need material to assist you in your W.I. work, or supplies for your hall, you may send your order here and we will forward it to Eaton's. A discount of 10% is allowed on such orders. The goods are shipped direct to you but monthly statements are sent from Eaton's to us and you will be billed from this office.

And here's an appeal to some of you older members. There is a gap in the file of Annual Report books in the office. A diligent search has been made in the old records but we cannot find copies for the years 1935 to 1939 inclusive. If you have a copy of any of those years would you mind sending it to us? We would be most grateful for this favour.

The Semi-annual Board Meeting will be held January 30-31, 1953, in the Queen's Hotel, Montreal. The coming ACWW Conference will be the big item of the agenda. What will be expected of us, the Q.W.I.? What can we offer to do? These will be but two of the questions that will have to be discussed at that time. County presidents are making a survey in their districts as to what hospitality can be given, the F.W.I.C. will be sending information as to members and dates of arrival at the various ports of entry, as soon as it reaches the national office, all this—a starting point for our plans.

Thanks to the Agricultural convenors who gave co-operation in filling out the ACWW questionnaire re-employment for country women. A response of 50% was received, very good as surveys go. As could be expected the reports were practically unanimous in stating wives and daughters contribute a vast amount of unpaid

work on farms while part-time agricultural employment, on a money raising basis, shows apple-picking high on the list of seasonal work, with poultry raising having priority as a full time job. In reply to the question as to opportunities for non-agricultural jobs open to women in rural districts, employment in local industries rates high. Teaching comes well up in this list. The findings are being forwarded to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, where they will be summarised with those of the other provinces and sent to the ACWW office in London.



Mrs. Frank R. Mitchell.

Our Honour Roll

Deep sorrow was felt by members of the Ascot branch of the Q.W.I. when they learned of the sudden death on Aug. 26, 1952, of a highly esteemed member, Mrs. Frank R. Mitchell, while visiting in Newmarket, Ont.

Mrs. Mitchell joined the Lennoxville branch in 1916 and was treasurer of that branch from 1916-1923. At the first county meeting, held on May 7, 1917, she became the secretary-treasurer, a position she held for a number of years.

In 1925 she transferred her membership to the Ascot branch that had been formed in her community.

She was by profession a registered nurse and Ascot was fortunate to have had her as their Child Welfare convenor from 1936-1940. During this period she gave unstintingly of her time and efforts in arranging clinics and looking after the welfare of the young.

She was always willing to carry the heavy load of convening the banquets and suppers served by her branch and indeed will be greatly missed, as she had so much information at her finger tips.

In 1950 she was recognized for her years of service to the Women's Institute and presented with a Life Membership by the Sherbrooke County Women's Institute.

The Month With The W.I.

The publishers of the Macdonald Farm Journal are making a determined effort to get the magazine out earlier, a move our readers will all appreciate. To this end, the editors are asking for co-operation. This means all county publicity convenors must have their reports away to the provincial convenor, Mrs. Evans, by *the fifteenth of each month at the very latest*. Please, branch convenors, see that your reports to your county go into the mail right after your meetings. We will all enjoy seeing our news in print at an earlier date so let's prove we can do our part in making that possible.

Reports of School Fairs are much to the fore. About 21 such events are held annually, either under the direct sponsorship of W.I. branches or carried on in co-operation with other agencies. One of the oldest of these is the Bristol School Fair, with a record of 39 years to its credit. This is held at the Elmside school and Mrs. W. J. Murray and Miss S. Campbell are the "prime movers" with the help of the agronomist, Mr. N. Drummond. Pupils from seven Protestant schools and one Catholic school attended with over 300 entries. Stanbridge East is another W.I. that holds its school fair for the benefit of both French and English speaking children. "84 children and 262 exhibits", reads this report. Following is the list of other branches reporting some activity connected with this project: Pioneer—\$5 to the fair, New Richmond—Calf Show sponsored at county fair, Shigawake—donation of \$5, Hemmingford, Howick, Bury, Canterbury—\$10 to Bury fair and help with food for dinner, York, Breckenridge, Kazabazua, Fordyce—donated \$10, Shipton—treated children to ice-cream and served tea, county project in Sherbrooke—7 branches, Stanstead—branches help with prizes, Cavagnal—80 prizes, Vegetables sent after to Catherine Booth Hospital. The comment made at the end of the first report speaks for them all, "A great interest is taken in our fair and it is hoped



Harwood Branch annual picnic at the Martin home.
it can be long carried on".

Argenteuil: Arundel had several visitors at their meeting when Judge Nickolson was the guest speaker, giving a talk on his work in social welfare. Brownsburg heard Mr. A. Robbins, Fire-chief, whose topic was "Fire Prevention in the Home". Two prizes were won at the Ottawa Exhibition and handicraft was displayed at the Lachute School Fair. Lakefield had a discussion on ways and means of raising funds for W.I. work. Pioneer planned a quilting for the "Rose" quilt and made a donation of \$5 to the Lachute High School. Upper Lachute & East End heard a talk by Mrs. Istvansffy, R.N., on "Emotional Ills", and catered for a wedding supper. Jerusalem-Bethany planned a sight-seeing tour. A paper on "Education in Great Britain and Canada", was read.

Bonaventure: New Richmond sent a food parcel to England. Port Daniel donated \$5 to the County Fair held in Shigawake and netted \$40.75 from the Salmon supper. The convenor gave a talk on Education. Shigawake heard an account of the sewing course and gave a donation of \$24.75 to the Agricultural Fair. Restigouche donated \$30 towards school prizes. Grand Cascapedia sponsored an entertainment for the children and a social evening netted \$43. Marcil was active at the Agricultural Fair.

Chat.-Huntingdon: Dundee formed a radio listening group under the leadership of Mrs. E. Gardiner. A hospital bed has been donated to the W.I. by the Huntingdon Co. Liberal Association. Franklin Centre heard articles read by Mrs. J. Bruce and Mrs. W. Blair and a paper, "Mind your Manners", by Miss A. Cain. Hemmingford had a talk and discussion on "Frozen Foods". Howick's food sale netted \$40.40. A paper, "Supporting our Home School", was given by Mrs. W. Kerr. Huntingdon donated \$100 to the County Hospital, initial payment to furnish a room. A Fashion Parade was held with garments modelled from feed and flour bags. Ormstown held a food sale, realizing \$25. Two new members enrolled.

Compton: Brookbury entertained the semi-annual convention. New curtains have been purchased for the



Tours of plants of local industries are often made by Women's Institute groups and every courtesy is always extended to them by the management. Here members of Cavagnal W.I. pay a visit to a local hosiery factory—Hudson Hosiery Company.



Valcartier W.I. holds the Annual School Fair. In addition to the garden produce, maps made by senior pupils of the school are seen in the foreground. The fair is held in the Protestant Intermediate School and the Principal and some of the W.I. members form a group at the back of the hall.

hall, which were in place in time for this meeting. At the branch meeting a bouquet of flowers was presented to a charter member who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Bury welcomed a new member. A thank-you letter was read from a boy in the Navy who received a parcel. Bury Juniors have received their new Handbooks. A shell work project is planned and a weiner roast was enjoyed. Canterbury heard a talk on "England", given by a member of the Scotstown W.I. who had spent some time there. A gift was presented to a member in appreciation of her services as secretary for 25 years and a donation of \$8 was voted the Q.W.I. Service Fund. East Angus heard a paper describing the Royal Tour and plans were made to have this film shown. A paper drive is planned. East Clifton had a discussion on forming a Red Cross Society. Plans were made for having the hall wired. South Newport had a talk on "Trees of North America", also a discussion on the advantages or disadvantages of modern education. Scotstown saw a film on Health, shown by Mrs. Aubin, R.N., of the Health Unit. Books were presented to mothers present and a book to the J.W.I. counsellor to assist with her work. This branch entertained the teachers. Sawyerville has also held a welcome for the teachers. A new member was welcomed.

Gaspe: L'Anse aux Cousins sent suggestions for the 1953 W.I. fair to the county secretary. A scholarship of \$10 was voted and a dance brought \$25 for the funds. Wakeham has started a library with 50 books as a beginning. Drawing a map of the Gaspé Peninsula formed part of the program. York brought in articles and packed boxes for pen pals overseas.

Gatineau: Aylmer East heard a talk on "Elementary Education", by Mrs. Wm. Munroe, Supervisor of Schools. Breckenridge, here the talk was on the same subject and given by Mrs. Fred Lusk. The branch offers a scholarship of \$25 to a high ranking pupil continuing to Grade VIII. Eardley filled in a questionnaire from the CBC. "Cultiv-

ating a Taste in Children for Canadian Literature", was the subject of a talk and a contest with prizes on original verse, "What I Learned at the Fair" was another item of the program. Kazabazua received praise from Mr. Munroe, county Supervisor, for their School Fair and the high quality and variety of the exhibits. Lakeview managed a booth at the Lakeview Rate-payer's Fair and realized \$18.38 for funds. Rupert is continuing dances to aid branch funds and catered for the plowing match. Wakefield raised \$59.50 in a tag day for the County Hospital and reports their share of the Hospital Garden Party was \$173.85. Beautification of the hospital grounds will be a fall project. Wright featured a talk by Mrs. Moodie on "The Reigns of English Queens from 1541", and another, "News of Our New Queen".

Jacques-Cartier: Ste. Annes members enjoyed a film on Nylon. An apron sale netted \$3.60.

Megantic: Inverness gave a life membership and made plans for catering to the I.O.O.F. supper. Lemesurier had a discussion on hot lunches at school and voted \$5 for prizes at Kinnears Mills School. A \$25 scholarship is also being given to the pupil with highest marks in Grade X and money was donated to Leeds and Kinnears Mills Cemetery Fund. Other activities of this busy group are the purchase of shelves for their library books, catering to the I.O.O.F. supper and entertaining the county semi-annual meeting.

Mississquoi: Dunham received an invitation for the members to visit a liner in port at Montreal. Some of the members visited the school and presented prizes for last year's work. A large donation of clothing was given a needy family and a parcel of linen and cotton sent to the Cancer Society. Fordyce gave a donation to the Q.W.I. Service Fund and the sum of \$30.60 was realized from the sale of calendars. A quilting bee was held for the Tweedsmuir entry. Stanbridge East had a talk given by Mr. Walbridge of Mystic, describing his trip to Portuguese West Africa, where he visited his daughter who is a missionary in that field. Many members attended the Home Demonstration Follow-up meeting at Bakerfield, Vt. A new junior group has been formed here.

Pontiac: Bristol members exchanged pickle recipes and heard the report of the convention. Clarendon held



Grandmother's Day with the Stark's Corners W.I. Fourteen grandmothers and one great-grandmother were present.

a program on Education with Mr. Tolhurst, Principal, Shawville High School, as speaker. Elmside's president read a timely article, "What About Those Meetings?". Shawville made a donation of \$75 to the cemetery committee. A flower show, with prizes, was held, Mrs. A. Brough and Mrs. L. Stevens being the winners.

Quebec: Valcartier realized the sum of \$255.35 from a bazaar and \$81.25 from an euchre party. Of this, \$25 each was voted to the school fair prizes, Save the Children Fund, and the Recreational Sports Association. Swings have been erected on the W.I. "grounds".

Richmond: Cleveland members quoted a verse from an old school book by memory and a talk was given on Education. Denison's Mills also discussed the same topic. Plans are made for a cleaning bee for their hall. Melbourne Ridge also discussed Education, under the leadership of the county president, Miss Alice Dresser. A membership was sent the CAC and a donation given the Plowman's Association. Richmond Hill planned a chicken pie supper. The winner of the contest, the oldest school book, was Mrs. Sloane, who brought in a book published in 1843. Prizes are being given in St. Francis College and the Convent. Richmond Y.W.I. had a rug-making demonstration and held a spelling bee. Shipton is planning a series of card parties for winter entertainment. Windsor Mills held the popular Feed Bag Fashion Show and realized \$18.90. The guest speaker at the meeting, Mrs. H. Montgomery, told of her five years in Labrador. Annual bursaries are given in the three schools of this county. The winners this year were Norman MacKay, St. Francis College; Mavis Taylor, Shipton High School; Rose Tozer, Mount St. Patrick Convent.

Rouville: Abbotsford had as guest speaker, Miss Grace Gardner, Educational Officer, Protestant Board of Education, Montreal. 29 jars of jelly were brought in for the Montreal Diet Dispensary and several bushels of apples were sent to the Veteran's Hospital at St. Hyacinthe.

Shefford: Granby Hill heard a paper on "Citizenship", also one on "Language of Textiles". The annual supper was held and a food and fancy work sale. The local Filtration Plant was visited. South Roxton donated \$100 to the South Roxton Union Cemetery Fund. Warden heard a paper on "Our Prime Ministers", and a quiz on Canada was held. A one month's subscription to the Sherbrooke Record has been sent to a member in hospital. Warden Juniors have received their Handbooks. A new member was enrolled and a contest was a feature of the programme.

Sherbrooke: Reports from this county tell of the Handicraft booth, an annual county project at the Fair. Many visitors were interested in hearing of the courses available through the Q.W.I. Ascot had a demonstration on making corsages by Mrs. Austin Church who also



Warden W.I. meeting at the home of Mrs. H. Jones. The President, Mrs. C. Mairs at extreme right back row. Mrs. W. Wallace, secretary, is second from left in front row and the County Publicity Convenor, Miss Alice Ashton, is third from left in same row.

displayed "winter gardens". An auction of handicrafts aided the funds. Brompton presented a life membership to the county president, Miss Verna Hatch, a member of this branch and provincial convenor of Education, in recognition of her loyal service to the Q.W.I. Life Magazine is being sent to a friend in hospital and Mrs. H. Clark, Agriculture, reported on the Flower Show. Belvidere held their annual vegetable and flower show, with Mr. F. Vaudry, of Vaudry Florists, as judge. Mrs. Daigle was given a membership pin in appreciation of her work in compiling the branch history and a gift was also presented the retiring secretary, Mrs. Cilliss. Cherry River had a sale of miscellaneous articles and planned a card party. Lennoxville reports only the work connected with the county school fair. Milby has purchased new serving counters for the Club Room. A sale of food aided the funds and a new member, Mrs. Fred Green, was welcomed. Orford members brought in articles for the coming sale and tea.

Stanstead: Ayer's Cliff voted \$15 for school prizes. A resumé of the county history was given by the Education convenor, for the period 1915-1939. Beebe gave \$50 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund and \$15 for school prizes and special essays. Mrs. Hugh McClary, Principal, Sunnyside School, Rock Island, discussed the child's approach to school life and co-operation between parents and teachers. Minton had an "Intelligence" contest, with prizes. A local girl, Miss Gwen Connor, won the county scholarship. North Hatley entertained the teaching staff, when the principal, Mr. Wm. Heath, spoke on the curriculum to be followed, with question period at the close of his talk. A second child is being sponsored by this branch, through Save the Children, the first one is now finished. The community memorial scholarship is still being supported and was won this year by Miss Gloria Nelson. Stanstead North has presented Sunnyside Home and School Association with \$100 towards hot lunches for school children. The principal, Mrs. McClary, gave a talk on "What a Child Should Learn Before Attending School". At Way's Mills the convenor of Education speak on "Modern Trends in Education".

Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

What a month! Too many meetings, too much work, too little time. It seems as if nearly every other night there was some sort of thing calling for attendance. Some, of course, was for recreational purposes, mixed with a bit of business but Jack is supposed to have some fun so why not Dot and Gordon?

We got our lime in good season this fall, just as soon as the field we meant to put it on was pastured off. This year we hired a machine to put most of it on and it made quite a difference as we had it out two days after it arrived (Sept. 24). Alex did the bulk of it with the machine and tractor while I did the hilly part with the horses and a shovel. It was so near time for the lime that we waited for the last piece of fall rye until it could be limed which made it very late. However it has given some pasture and will give more if the weather should improve. The cattle are all in the barn today (Oct. 20). That brings up a new angle to consider for the rye if we continue to seed it down in the early spring. It must be limed in the fall and we do not plant enough to need a load of lime then but are not ready for some as early as that. Guess we'll have to try to divide up with some of the neighbours as more of them are sowing fall rye every year.

Alex was anxious to finish plowing before it got cold so he kept at it when he could and finished some time ago except for a quarter acre of side-hill which the horses will have to do. Probably we shall feel we are so near done that we won't get at that last little bit until too late. However, I can be sure that I won't be plowing as long in December as I was last year. If it should be done in December, it won't take long. We didn't do much at digging the potatoes until the plowing was done as most of the tops were still green. Our early variety had ripened and should have been dug and sold while

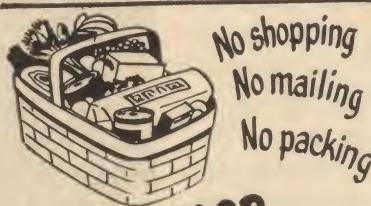
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prices were high if we had realized how many we had. They are not heavy yielders and we shouldn't have planted so many unless we did cash in on their earliness. We had some of the new Canso variety but the seed was in poor shape so didn't have a fair chance to show what it could do. There was no rot in them and a fair crop of big potatoes but the tops were dead before the Green Mountains. In fact we finally sprayed the latter to kill the tops. They had the biggest crop and only a little rot though we did have some frozen ones as the frost was late but hard when it did come.

The Farm Forum Rally for Stanstead drew quite a crowd and the information received there about the Brome County Hospital Insurance Plan was very interesting. They seem to have accomplished a lot for a reasonable premium. Discussion at the rally seemed to indicate that some felt the 'premium' paid to F. F. was too high for benefits receivable but it seems as if that is due to the fact that they do not realize all the benefits they have received. If they had an itemized bill dividing the whole cost up, it might seem quite reasonable.

The Ways Mills Women's Institute decided to hold one monthly meeting in the evening and at the same time entertain their families at a chicken pie supper. The men seemed to appreciate the chance to have their supper on Institute day with their wives instead of without them and there was a good turnout. Mainly for the purpose of entertainment a miscellaneous auction was held. It seemed to serve its original intention but also enriched the W.I. by over twelve dollars.

We had an interesting visit from our district forest engineer, Mr. Du-moulin. He took a walk up to the woodlot we wish to reforest and decided there was no need to do any planting as natural planting was well under way. He termed this the best method where it is possible to depend on it. As time goes on some thinning

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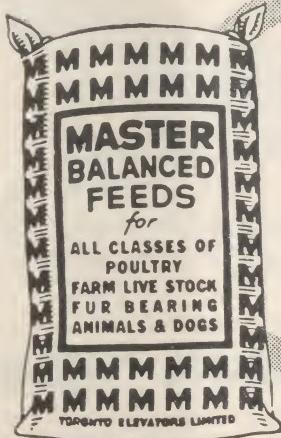
is advisable to leave the trees four to five feet apart (if one can find the time). This gives them room to grow but leaves them close enough so the bottom branches will dry out and fall off. In reply to a question about the cutting of Christmas trees to provide some income, he said it was quite practical and could even improve the stand if one did the cutting oneself. If the trees are sold standing no care will be taken to leave good trees in the proper number.

He also went in the other direction to the sugar bush which has been puzzling us a bit as to how to proceed. He advised cutting out all the softwood except a band for a windbreak all around the outside. There is a heavy growth of spruce, fir and hemlock which shades the sugar trees and chokes out the young ones so they do not get started. Perhaps there is enough usable or saleable material to pay the cutting. However someone else would have to profit from the young maples though I might have the fun of seeing them grow. He did predict an increased flow of sap which prediction I am ready to accept. Last spring the sap flow doubled from a shaded corner where the evergreens had been cut out for pulp. He also told us that we could put two buckets on trees over fifteen inches through without hurting them and three buckets on those over twenty inches. This would enable us to use more buckets or use the same number without walking so far to gather the sap. The latter is more appealing at present. In one area he thought the beech would soon be almost as troublesome as the evergreens though they do not create so much shade in the sugar season when they are leafless. So when the evergreens are all cut he advised starting on the beech. Where did we leave those axes? It sounds as if there was work to be done.

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single file, head to tail, between the one side of the enclosure and the ladder, since this arrangement permits easy access to each one.

A "Better Way" in Marketing

Marketing is the process that brings the production to the place of consumption. This should be done efficiently, economically and with the necessary services. The amount of money producers have left to spend will largely depend on the way in which their products are marketed. There is always a "better way." This "better way" is constantly taking place as professional and trade groups devise new marketing methods and improve existing ones.

Producers of most agricultural products spend only a small part of their gross sales income in sales promotion. Some manufacturers on the other hand spend as much as 50 percent of their gross sales income for promotion and marketing. With consumer packaging now in general use branding and promotion of sales of farm products should be greatly increased by both individuals and organizations.

Keeping Friends

Grading, labeling and quality packaging are absolutely necessary in our present-day markets. Every successful marketing program of size that has come to our attention has a controlled grading feature in its makeup. While it is true that branding and labeling introduce the product to the consumer, it requires a truthful explanation of the contents of the package to keep the consumer as a lasting friend.

Consumer packaging of fresh fruits and vegetables is one of the best means to meet the increasing competition of frozen foods. The success of consumer packaging depends largely on our ability to put only well graded high quality products in these packages. The preservation of this quality depends on the facilities and care given the product by producers, wholesalers and retailers. Consumers demand quality preservation which is typified by freshness.

Increased emphasis on food merchandising includes reducing losses caused by waste and deterioration as well as reducing the extra handling because of inadequate marketing facilities. Consumer demand must be understood to minimize market gluts or local surpluses. Market

organization should be improved so as to reduce duplication of effort and maintain a proper flow of products to consumers with a minimum conflict of interests. When the "better way" of merchandising is put into practice by all groups concerned the unnecessary costs to producers, handlers and consumers are eliminated.

Don't Call It 'Luck'

When King Solomon remarked, "Where there is no vision the people perish," he meant that there is a constant need for a "better way" in the form of administrative and creative management. There is always a need for people who look beyond the horizon to see the problems and the tools needed to do the job a "better way." Some people call it luck when a "better way" is found. Actually, luck is the point where preparation, opportunity, imagination and initiative meet. We hear criticism of so called "star gazers." Actually we need more of these people who can look beyond our present day horizons. This is especially true if these people with their wagons hitched to a star, still keep their feet on the ground through the application of their vision to the solution of a present-day problem.

Change Is Progress

"A better way" in marketing is immediately available to us if we would change our attitude about change itself. Most of us are creatures of habit, custom, tradition and inertia. We are in love with "the good old days" and daily pray for a return to them. We are afraid of things that are new just because adopting them would require a change; first in our mind and later in our facilities and methods. We should recognize that change is the evolutionary process by which progress is made. While some people contend that the only thing that is constant is change many of us believe that there is another constant-resistance to change. Many of us feel that when you stop trying to do better you stop doing good. Actually nothing that has been done has been done well enough. There will always be an unlimited ceiling on our opportunities to find a "better way." Don't miss your opportunity.

Standard Names For Vitamins

With vitamins now playing an important role in the nutrition of both man and animal, the names of many of these growth and health promoting substances have become familiar to the farmer. But scientists and farmers alike have been confused by the two different systems of naming vitamins used in England and the United States.

The past year has been notable for many international consultation which have resulted among other things in

the adoption of standard names for vitamins. The adopted names for the vitamins with which the farmer is likely to be familiar are: Vitamin B₁, also known as Aneurin and Thiamine, is to be named Thiamine; Vitamin B₂, also known as Riboflavin, will henceforth be known as Riboflavin; Vitamin C, also known as Ascorbic Acid, is now generally known as Ascorbic Acid; and the Vitamin B₁₂ group collectively will go under the name of Cobalamin.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clan

Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students

Hugh Miller Tames A River

Hugh Miller, B.Sc.(Agr.) '44, has tackled a big job in Jamaica; one which has needed doing for a long time, but which literally took a hurricane to get it started.

For years, soil erosion and poor farming methods have been gradually transforming the once-fertile Yallahs River valley and watershed in Jamaica into a denuded, desolate tract of hillside shale and valley sand in which 15,000 peasants eke out a bare existence, with their plight growing more desperate every year. Plans for improvement through a long-term programme of soil rehabilitation had been under consideration for at least ten years, and when wide-spread measures had to be taken to repair the damage caused by the devastating hurricane that struck the island on August 17, 1951, the Yallahs Valley scheme was started; some forty people lost their lives in the area during the storm, and damage was great.

The Yallahs Valley Authority was set up on October 15, 1951, and Mr. Miller was brought from his post as Headmaster of the Jamaica School of Agriculture to boss the job—the biggest and most important experiment in land reclamation ever undertaken in the British Caribbean.

Mr. Miller has had an enviable record in agriculture. A graduate of the Jamaica School of Agriculture, he went from there to the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad. Then, after some years in various responsible posts in the Jamaica Department of Agriculture, he came to Macdonald College and obtained his degree with first class honours. Soon after his return to the island after graduation he was named Headmaster of the Jamaica School of Agriculture, a post he filled with distinction for eight years.

The job will be no pushover. The terrain which is YVA's province is difficult in the extreme. It stretches from the Blue Mountain Peak in the north to the river

delta in the south where it touches the sea. In the east it abuts on Queensbury Ridge which divides Yallahs Valley from the Negro and Mundicott River beds. In the west it is bordered by the Port Royal Mountains.

Within this seventy square miles, from time immemorial rains and cloudbursts have washed the rich topsoil from the ridges down through the river's many tributaries to the sea, slowly reducing the value of the adjacent lands and heights.

The Yallahs River course is a vast, sprawling desert of sand, shale and scrub trees. During heavy rains the river fans out onto this desert, spreading despair and making poverty more acute. Miller's job will be to build dams, reservoirs, possibly hydro-electric plants, replant the denuded slopes with trees whose roots will hold the humusfilled topsoil their fallen leaves will help make. The dams will irrigate the valleys where the peasants will be taught by YVA men what to grow and how. The river itself will be tamed by artificial channels bulwarked by Mississippi-style levees, groins and baffles.

High up in the mountains, contoured terraces of fodder grass and economic trees will break the runaway flow of the rains and hold the water back for slow, steady percolation down into the river and into reservoirs and dams, there to serve the valley during the dry months.

As might be expected, this brand new scheme is meeting with opposition from suspicious farmers, and not the least of Miller's tasks will be to transform this suspicious into co-operation; a task that will call on all his tact and diplomacy. But he possesses these qualities to a remarkable degree, and he is backed by wide authority. We have no doubt that his leadership ability, his scientific know-how and his physical drive will make the Yallahs Valley bloom again.

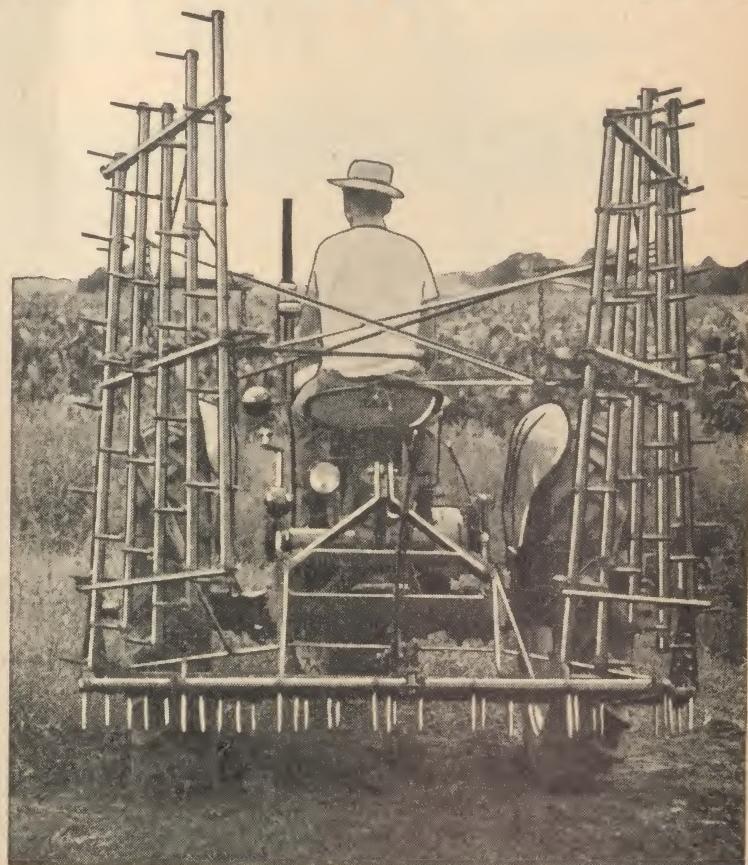
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